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Alaska budget woes prod debate over oil-wealth fund checks

By BECKY BOHRER
Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Daniel Bowen came to Alaska in 2011, looking for adventure and opportunity.

He and his wife eventually settled on the Kenai Peninsula south of Anchorage, a salmon fishing haven calling itself "Alaska's Playground."

But the Bowens, both teachers, recently returned to their native Michigan. After years of stress over delayed state budgets, their breaking point, he said, was Gov. Mike Dunleavy's proposed reductions to K-12 spending and health and social service programs.

The state has been roiled by a budget dilemma linked to its uneasy reliance on oil, bringing a reckoning that has scrambled traditional political alliances. For decades, Alaska binged on infrastructure and community projects when oil prices were high and cut spending and closed facilities when they weren't.

This time, prices haven't boomed and after years of drawing down savings and cutting expenses, state leaders face tough decisions.

The situation has politi-



In this Feb. 27, 2019 file photo, protesters attend a rally at the Capitol in Juneau, Alaska, to show opposition to budget cuts proposed by Gov. Mike Dunleavy. For decades, Alaska has had an uneasy reliance on oil, building budgets around its volatile boom-or-bust nature.

Associated Press

cians debating changes to the annual dividend paid to residents from Alaska's nest-egg oil-wealth fund.

The checks, seen by many

as an entitlement, once were considered almost untouchable.

But the budget reality, and differences over taxes and

spending, has politicians and residents choosing between the size of the prized checks and public services many expect.

The anxiety is tied to persistent low-to-middling North Slope oil prices.

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Trump says he wants background checks, also reassures NRA

By **ZEKE MILLER** and **DEB RIECHMANN**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Friday he believes he has influence to rally Republicans around stronger federal background check laws as Congress and the White House work on a response to last weekend's mass shootings in Texas and Ohio.

At the same time, Trump said he had assured the National Rifle Association that its gun-rights views would be "fully represented and respected." He said he was hopeful the NRA would not be an obstacle to strengthening the nation's gun laws.

Trump has promised to lead on tougher gun control measures before, including after the 2018 Parkland, Florida, school shooting, but little has come of it. His comments in the wake of the twin massacres marked his most optimistic and supportive words in favor of more stringent gun laws, though he left the details vague and it remained to be seen how much po-



President Donald Trump talks to reporters on the South Lawn of the White House, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019, in Washington, as he prepares to leave Washington for his annual August holiday at his New Jersey golf club.

litical capital Trump would throw behind marshaling Republicans on the issue. He said Friday he now is looking for "very meaningful background checks" but is not considering a resurrection of an assault weapons ban. He said he also believes lawmakers will

support "red flag" laws that allow guns to be removed from those who may be a danger to themselves and others.

"I see a better feeling right now toward getting something meaningful done," Trump told reporters when asked why the political environment was different now.

"I have a greater influence now over the Senate and the House," he said at the White House.

Democrats and others have been skeptical of Trump's commitment to genuine gun control, judging from past experience. But he said he was behind it. "The Republicans are going to be great and lead the charge along with the Democrats," he declared, saying he'd spoken with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell whom he proclaimed to be "totally onboard."

But McConnell, thus far, has only committed to a discussion of the issue. Republicans have long opposed expanding background checks — a bill passed by the Democratic-led House is stalled in McConnell's Senate — but they face new pressure after the shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, that left 31 people dead.

Senate Minority Leader

Associated Press

Chuck Schumer tweeted in response Friday that McConnell must bring up the House-passed legislation, which Trump had previously threatened to veto. "To get anything meaningful done to address gun violence, we need his commitment to hold a Senate vote on the House-passed background checks legislation," Schumer said.

As for the NRA, which has contributed millions to help Trump and other Republicans, the gun lobby's chief executive, Wayne LaPierre, said this week that some federal gun control proposals "would make millions of law-abiding Americans less safe and less able to defend themselves and their loved ones."

But Trump said he'd spoken with LaPierre this week and "I think in the end, Wayne and the NRA will either be there or either be a little more neutral."

"Frankly, I really think they're going to get there also," he added.

On Thursday, Senate Majority Leader McConnell said he now wants background checks and other action, setting up a potentially pivotal moment when lawmakers return in the fall.

The Republican leader won't be calling senators back to work early, as some are demanding. But

he told a Kentucky radio station that Trump called him Thursday morning and they talked about several ideas. The president, he said, is "anxious to get an outcome and so am I."

"What we can't do is fail to pass something," McConnell said.

Traveling with Trump to New York, South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham said he intended to discuss the issue with the president over the weekend. He said he's in favor of a state-run list system that would prohibit certain people from buying guns.

"I just think the space to do nothing is gone," he said. "And that's a good thing."

McConnell said he and Trump discussed background checks and "red flag" laws. "Those are two items that for sure will be front and center as we see what we can come together on and pass," McConnell told Louisville's WHAS-AM.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Schumer said Trump assured them in phone calls Thursday he will review the House-passed bill that would expand federal background checks for firearm sales.

In a joint statement, they said Trump called them individually after Pelosi sent a letter asking the president to order the Senate back to Washington to consider gun violence measures.

Schumer and Pelosi said they told Trump the best immediate step would be for the Senate to take up and pass the House bill. Trump, they said, "understood our interest in moving as quickly as possible to help save lives."

The politics of gun control are shifting amid the frequency and toll of mass shootings. Spending to support candidates backing tougher gun control measures — mostly Democrats — surged in the 2018 midterms, even as campaign spending by the NRA declined.

The NRA says proposals being discussed in Congress would not have prevented the shootings in Texas and Ohio. □

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Alaska budget woes prod debate over oil-wealth fund checks

Continued from Front

Prices topping \$100 a barrel in 2014 went into a freefall that worsened a budget deficit now in its eighth year. State revenue officials believe prices in the \$60 a barrel range to be realistic long-term.

This year, an average of about 508,000 barrels of oil a day has coursed through the 800-mile (1,288-kilometer) trans-Alaska pipeline, according to the pipeline operator.

On the pipeline's peak day in 1988, 20 years after oil was discovered at Prudhoe Bay, 2.1 million barrels flowed.

"Alaska needs to think about the new world we have today," said Cliff Groh, a longtime political observer, adding later: "The cavalry" of high prices and booming production "does not seem to be coming."

Oil has been the economic lifeblood of Alaska, whose population of about 735,000 is less than Seattle's. A 1969 oil and gas lease sale was a game-changer, said Eric Wohlforth, a state revenue commissioner in the early '70s and a former Alaska Permanent Fund Corp. board trustee.

"Suddenly we were a place that the bankers looked on with envy rather than just the poor supplicant," he said.

The sale reaped \$900 million that went toward infrastructure and other needs but was pretty well spent around the time the pipeline came online in 1977, he said.

In 1976, voters approved creating the Alaska Permanent Fund and dedicating a portion of mineral wealth to it. The fund, grown through investments, was valued as of June at \$66 billion, with the earnings reserve portion valued at \$18 billion.

The fund's principal is constitutionally protected but its earnings are spendable. Lawmakers had long limited use of earnings to such things as fortifying the fund and paying dividends based on an aver-

age of fund income over five years. But last year, after going through billions of dollars in savings and at odds over taxes and further budget cuts, lawmakers began using earnings to help pay for government and sought to restrict what could be withdrawn for dividends and government.

Alaska has no state sales or personal income taxes.

Dunleavy, a Republican, says a longstanding dividend calculation that hasn't been followed for three years should be followed until it's changed. That would mean checks of about \$3,000 this year. His support on the issue includes conservative Republicans and some Democrats, though other conservative Republicans and Democrats have resisted.

He has indicated willingness to discuss formula changes but insisted on a public vote. He said Alaskans didn't mind the size of their checks until politicians began tinkering.

Checks in recent years ranged from \$878 in 2012 to \$2,072 in 2015, the year before they were capped. The Legislature, with a bipartisan House majority and GOP-led Senate, wants Dunleavy to consider a roughly \$1,600 check this year.

Many lawmakers say the formula is unsustainable and have balked at violating the draw rate and setting a precedent of dipping deeper into the reserve.

Higher-than-expected draws could reduce what's available in earnings and at some point put pressure on the corporation to change its strategies to churn more money into the earnings reserve account, said Angela Rodell, the corporation's CEO.

Carl Davis, research director with the Washington, D.C.-based Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, said cutting the dividend is regressive, hitting lower-income families particularly hard. He sees no conflict between paying a dividend and taxing residents. While some Democrats

want to debate oil taxes and whether companies are paying enough, Dunleavy has focused on cutting a budget he considers unsustainable.

There would not be an "honest discussion" about spending if tax bills also were being introduced, said Dunleavy's revenue commissioner, Bruce Tangeman.

Dunleavy vetoed more than \$400 million, riling critics who say it's too much, too fast and prompting public outrage that is fueling a recall attempt.

The Board of Regents, facing a potential 40% cut in state support for the university system, has taken initial steps toward consolidating its three accredited campuses into one.



This undated file photo shows the Trans-Alaska pipeline and pump station north of Fairbanks, Alaska.

Associated Press

Lawmakers, unable to reach the higher threshold required to override Dunleavy's vetoes, passed legislation seeking to reverse many of the cuts. Dunleavy

has the option of cutting again.

Larry Persily, a former deputy revenue commissioner, said the choices are painful. □



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In this Aug. 3, 2019 file photo, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., addresses the audience gathered at the Fancy Farm Picnic in Fancy Farm, Ky.

Associated Press

Trump-McConnell 2020? Senate leader glues self to president

By **LISA MASCARO**
AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's not quite "Trump-McConnell 2020," but it might as well be.

As he runs for reelection, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is positioning himself as the president's wingman, his trusted right hand in Congress, transformed from a behind-the-scenes player into a prominent if sometimes reviled Republican like none other besides Donald Trump himself.

"In Washington, President Trump and I are making America great again!" he declared at a rally in Kentucky, his voice rising over protesters.

Other than Democrat Nancy Pelosi — and more recently Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez — no current politician has so quickly become such a high-profile object of partisan scorn. McConnell was heckled last weekend at his home state's annual "Fancy Farm" political picnic, and protesters outside his Louisville house hurled so many profanities that Twitter temporarily shut down his account for posting video of them online.

Undaunted, he revels in the nickname he's given himself — the "Grim Reaper," bragging that he's burying the House Democrats' agenda — though he seems stung by one lobbed by opponents, "Moscow Mitch."

But the Democrats' agenda includes gun legislation to require background checks that Trump now wants to consider, forcing McConnell to adjust his earlier refusal to do so. The Senate leader has been here before, pushing ahead with a Trump priority that's unpopular with most Republicans. But this will test both his relationship with the president and his grip on the GOP majority. All while he's campaigning to keep his job.

McConnell is even more dependent on Trump's

popularity in Kentucky than his own, a different political landscape from the one he faced in 2014, before the president took the White House.

"They need each other," says Scott Jennings, a long-time adviser to McConnell. The new McConnell strategy shows just how far Trump has transformed the GOP, turning a banker's-collar-and-cufflinks conservative into a "Fake News!" shouting senator.

There was not an easy alliance in Trump's first year, and they went a long stretch without talking to each other. But two years on, McConnell has proven a loyal implementer of the president's initiatives, and Trump no longer assails the senator on Twitter.

Perhaps no issue has drawn the unlikely partners together more than the current reckoning over national gun violence. Republicans, long allied with the National Rifle Association, have resisted stricter laws on firearm and ammunition sales. But the frequency of mass shootings and the grave toll are intensifying pressure to act.

Trump on Friday revived his interest in having Congress take a look at expanding federal background checks and other gun safety laws long pushed by Democrats, insisting he will be able to get Republicans on board. McConnell, in a shift, said he's now willing to consider those ideas "front and center" when Congress returns in the fall. Said Trump, "I think I have a greater influence now over the Senate."

"We've seen it before," said Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., in a tweet after the weekend mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio. "An awful shooting occurs. @realDonaldTrump expresses interest in helping. Republicans try to get him off the hook with lesser measures. Nothing happens."

In fact, McConnell and his allies have taken on Trump's style, lashing out

at media and political opponents. When campaign volunteers came under criticism for appearing to choke a cardboard cut-out of Ocasio-Cortez at the picnic in a photo circulated online, McConnell allies said the high schoolers were being treated unfairly by opponents trying to maliciously shame them in public.

The shift in McConnell's strategy is not lost on Democrat Amy McGrath, the former fighter pilot and the leading Democrat hoping to win the party's nomination to challenge him next fall, her campaign said.

McGrath is telling Kentuckians that McConnell is part of the problem, a long-serving leader who has stood in the way of gun safety, health care and other legislation for years, and hardly the one to fulfill Trump's promises. Democrats and Republicans say she is expected to attract plenty of fundraising dollars and volunteers in a race that could easily approach \$100 million, second only to the presidential contest.

"It almost feels like we have a mini-presidential campaign going on here," said Jennings.

Kentucky remains a GOP stronghold, and Trump is extraordinarily popular, which is part of the reason McConnell is tying his own political future to the president. But it's unclear if his is the right strategy for the times.

With a national profile, McConnell's record is coming under more scrutiny.

A Russian oligarch's investments in a Kentucky aluminum plant and McConnell's refusal to allow the Senate to consider a House-passed election security bill have resulted in opponents calling him "Moscow Mitch" following Russia's 2016 campaign interference. His campaign tries to make light of questions surrounding the shipping business run by the family of his wife, Elaine Chao, Trump's transportation secretary. □

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Virginia transgender bathroom case: Judge favors ex-student

By **BEN FINLEY**
Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — A federal judge in Virginia ruled Friday that a school board's transgender bathroom ban discriminated against a former student, Gavin Grimm, the latest in a string of decisions nationwide that favor transgender students who faced similar policies.

The order issued by U.S. District Judge Arenda Wright Allen in Norfolk is a major victory for the American Civil Liberties Union and for Grimm. His four-year lawsuit was once a federal test case and had come to embody the debate about transgender student rights. The issue remains far from settled as a patchwork of differing policies governs schools across the nation. More court cases are making their way through the courts.

The Gloucester County School Board's policy required Grimm, a transgender male, to use girls' restrooms or private bathrooms. The judge wrote that Grimm's rights were violated under the U.S. Constitution's equal protection clause as well as under Title IX, the federal policy that protects against gender-



In this Tuesday, July 23, 2019, file photo, Gavin Grimm, who has become a national face for transgender students, speaks during a news conference held by The ACLU and the ACLU of Virginia at Slover Library in Norfolk, Va.

based discrimination. "There is no question that the Board's policy discriminates against transgender students on the basis of their gender nonconformity," Allen wrote.

"Under the policy, all students except for transgender students may use restrooms corresponding with their gender identity," she continued. "Transgender students are singled out, subjected to discriminatory treatment, and excluded from spaces where similarly situated students are permitted to go."

Allen's ruling requires the school board to update the gender on Grimm's

high school transcripts. The judge also acknowledged that the board had the "unenviable responsibility" of navigating challenges that were unimaginable a generation ago.

"There can be no doubt that all involved in this case have the best interests of the students at heart," Allen added.

Grimm graduated in 2017 from Gloucester High School, located in a mostly rural area about 60 miles (95 kilometers) east of Richmond and near the Chesapeake Bay. Now 20 and living in California, he said by phone that the judge's order was "beautiful."

Grimm said he felt a sense of relief but would continue to fight the case if the school board appeals.

"My case has given me something of a platform that I intend to use, as long as I have it available to me, for trans education and advocacy," he added.

David Corrigan, the attorney for the Gloucester County School Board, declined to comment in an email to The Associated Press.

Corrigan had argued in court last month that Grimm remained female. He said gender is not a "societal construct" and that it doesn't matter that Grimm underwent chest reconstruction surgery and hormone therapy.

The judge's ruling will likely strengthen similar claims of discrimination made by students in eastern Virginia. It could have a greater impact if the case goes to an appeals court that oversees Maryland, West Virginia and the Carolinas.

Allen's ruling joins others that have been favorable to transgender students in states that include Maryland, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. But differing policies are still in place in schools across the coun-

try, said Harper Jean Tobin, policy director for the National Center for Transgender Equality, speaking last month with the AP.

Gary McCaleb, senior counsel for the conservative Christian group Alliance Defending Freedom, said last month that the issue is far from resolved.

McCaleb cited a federal discrimination complaint his organization filed in June that says a Connecticut policy on transgender athletes is unfair because it allows transgender girls to consistently win track and field events.

He also said a pending U.S. Supreme Court case involving a transgender woman who was fired by a Michigan funeral home could affect school bathroom policies.

Grimm's lawsuit became a federal test case when it was supported by the administration of then-President Barack Obama and scheduled to go before the U.S. Supreme Court in 2017. But the high court hearing was canceled after President Donald Trump rescinded an Obama-era directive that students can choose bathrooms corresponding with their gender identity. □

Georgia's new voting machines certified by the state

By **BEN NADLER**
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Georgia's secretary of state certified new touchscreen voting machines as election-safe in court documents Friday, bidding to put behind the acrimonious 2018 electoral season marred by reports of malfunctioning voting equipment, hourslong wait times and criticism that the state's outdated machines were vulnerable to hacking.

Republican Brad Raffensperger's office formally awarded a \$106 million contract to a Denver-based company, Dominion Voting Systems, for machines it said met state law for election security after neither losing vendor challenged Dominion's winning bid.

The developments came in court documents filed by attorneys defending state election officials against a lawsuit challenging Georgia's current voting system and seeking statewide use of hand-marked paper ballots.

The voting system overhaul comes nearly a year after Republican Gov. Brian Kemp — previously Georgia's top election official — beat Democrat Stacey Abrams for the governor's mansion.

Raffensperger recently announced the contract with Dominion for new electronic touchscreen machines that print a paper summary of a voter's ballot selections. The touchscreens will replace the state's current outdated machines, which had come under heavy

criticism that they are hackable and fail to provide a paper record to audit and verify the results.

He said the new machines will be ready for use in the March 24 presidential primaries, giving officials just months to roll them out across the state's 159 counties. The certification document says that the new system "has been thoroughly examined and tested and found to be in compliance with the applicable provisions of" state law and rules of Raffensperger's office. Cybersecurity experts have warned, however, that the new machines suffer from many of the same issues as the old ones.

Each paper summary print-out will have a QR code above the results that will be read by a tabulation



In this Oct. 27, 2018 file photo, people cast their ballots ahead of the Nov. 6, general election at Jim Miller Park in Marietta, Ga.

machine, and voters simply have to trust that the code accurately reflects their vote. In the event of a recount or an audit, the printed choices on each paper summary will be counted. But experts worry that vot-

ers might not take the time at the polls to verify their selections.

Georgia's current voting system is set to remain in place for special and municipal elections this fall and early next year. □

Documents: Plant owners 'willfully' used ineligible workers

By **JEFF AMY**

Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Six of seven Mississippi chicken processing plants raided Wednesday were "willfully and unlawfully" employing people who lacked authorization to work in the United States, including workers wearing electronic monitoring bracelets at work for previous immigration violations, according to unsealed court documents.

Federal investigators behind the biggest immigration raid in a decade relied on confidential informants inside the plants in addition to data from the monitoring bracelets to help make their case, according to the documents.

The sworn statements supported the search warrants that led a judge to authorize Wednesday's raids, and aren't official charges, but give the first detailed look at the evidence involved in what Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have described as a yearlong investigation.

Officials arrested 680 people during Wednesday's operation. Three Democratic congressmen on Friday demanded that the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice produce information. They want to know the cost of the raids, whether employers face criminal charges, whether any U.S. citizens were detained, how many parents were separated from children and whether any still remain separated.

The statements unsealed Thursday allege that managers at two processing plants owned by the same Chinese man actively participated in fraud. They also show that supervisors at

other plants at least turned a blind eye to evidence strongly suggesting job applicants were using fraudulent documents and bogus

on audits of I-9 forms, which employees fill out when they're hired, presenting documents to prove they can work legally work.

state law requires employers to check documents using E-Verify, an otherwise voluntary online federal system.

Louisiana, to process payroll and perform some human resource functions, and that investigators believed Liang and Carrillo tried to use the contractor to minimize responsibility for illegally employing workers. Officials earlier stated that in addition to the chicken plants, they executed a search warrant in Louisiana on Wednesday. ICE spokesman Bryan Cox declined Friday to confirm that Personnel Management had been searched. The company didn't respond Friday to a phone message and email.

Search warrants for some other poultry plants also indicate red flags about employees' status.

One woman told agents that a Spanish-speaking human resources employee at Koch Foods in Morton looked at two different IDs in three weeks. Ana Santizo-Tapia of Guatemala also told agents that a Koch supervisor asked if she had an ankle bracelet. Told yes, "he said it was okay, but she needed to keep it charged," according to the warrant.

The supervisor "stated that he knew 'they' were poor and came to the United States to work."

Another Koch employee said she worked at one plant in Morton for 11 months under a false name, and then got a job at the town's second Koch plant under her real name after receiving valid U.S. documents.

Koch said in a statement Friday that it has a "strict and thorough employment verification policy" and knows of no managers or supervisors arrested.

A human resources employee at Peco Foods plant in Bay Springs plant talked to an ICE informant about people hired twice under different names, according to the warrant application. The human resources employee stated that "Peco Foods management does not care."

A Peco spokeswoman didn't immediately respond Friday to a request for comment. □



Handcuffed workers await transportation to a processing center following a raid by U.S. immigration officials at Koch Foods Inc., plant in Morton, Miss.

Associated Press

Social Security numbers.

The documents say electronic monitoring bracelet data shows people previously arrested for immigration violations and not allowed to work in the U.S. were working at all seven plants raided.

There have historically been few criminal convictions for hiring people without documents because prosecutors must prove employers knowingly hired someone without legal work authorization. Employers often say they were fooled by fraudulent documents.

From October 2018 to May there were eight new prosecutions for hiring people working illegally and four new convictions nationwide. Among those who have been sentenced to prison are the owner of an Iowa meatpacking plant raided in 2008 and owner of a Tennessee meatpacking plant raided last year.

Companies can also face administrative fines based

Investigators allege the most brazen fraud took place at two smaller chicken processing plants — PH Food Inc. in Morton and A&B Inc. in Pelahatchie. Sworn statements identify Huo You Liang of California, known to Mississippi employees as Victor, as owner of both.

A PH Food employee, acting as a confidential informant, told Homeland Security investigators that the vast majority of the 240 employees at PH's plant in Morton and the 80 employees at A&B's plant in Pelahatchie didn't have proper work documents, including many Guatemalans.

The informant said employees used their real names and made-up Social Security numbers to apply for jobs at PH and A&B. "The payroll companies, as well as PH Food Inc. and A&B Inc. do not verify the authenticity of their documents," the informant told investigators. Mississippi

Calls to A&B and PH Food on Friday went unanswered.

The evidence also included a video and audio conversation involving secretary Heather Carrillo and the informant, recorded May 14 at PH in Morton. A summary says, "Carrillo said that she was looking for some 'papers' for 'Iris,' but 'Iris wasn't going anywhere because she was working with Victor (Huo You Liang) for a good time (duration of employment).'" It says Carrillo said A&B manager Salvador Delgado didn't want it reported because Carrillo knew which of his employees were real and which were fraudulent.

The agent notes investigators believe Delgado was embezzling money from A&B by adding fraudulent names and Social Security numbers to the payroll and keeping the proceeds.

The warrants state PH Food uses Personnel Management Inc. of Shreveport,





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Video of Vermont woman being hit by officer prompts changes

By WILSON RING
Associated Press

ST. ALBANS, Vt. (AP) — The chief of a small Vermont police department says he's changed the use-of-force reporting policies in the aftermath of an altercation in which a handcuffed woman was thrown against a wall and punched in the face by a sergeant who was later fired.

St. Albans Police Chief Gary Taylor said he did not become aware of the details of the March altercation until late May when he watched footage of it that was requested by the Vermont chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Now, Vermont State Police detectives are investigating the encounter between former St. Albans police Sgt. Jason Lawton and a woman he arrested, Amy Connelly.

The video, some of it from a police body camera, shows the apparently intoxicated Connelly, 35, being thrown against a wall in the broom-closet-sized holding cell after she refuses to sit down. When she stands



In this March 14, 2019, image taken from body camera video released by the St. Albans Police Department Amy Connelly kneels on the floor of a holding cell at the police station in St. Albans, Vt.

back up and tries to kick Lawton, he responds by punching her in the face. In court documents, Lawton originally said the blow to the face was to gain control of the situation and that it ended her aggressive behavior.

But Taylor said that was not what the footage showed. "The minute I saw the vid-

eo I was disturbed by what I saw and directed that there be an internal, administrative investigation conducted," Taylor said Thursday in his St. Albans office.

The internal investigation began June 3. On June 12, Lawton was placed on administrative leave. By July 1, after the department's

internal procedures were followed, Lawton was fired. Lawton has appealed his firing. His attorney did not return a call seeking comment.

On the evening of March 14, St. Albans police were called to a local bar after receiving reports that Connelly was arguing with others and refused to leave.

After she was taken to the police station, video shows Lawton going into a cell after Connelly apparently kicked the door. He swears at her, punches her in the face and throws her to the ground. He then said he was going to charge Connelly with assault.

Connelly is heard repeatedly saying, "Why would you do this?"

Connelly has pleaded not guilty to charges of disorderly conduct, unlawful mischief and simple assault. Last week, her attorney asked the court to dismiss the charges against her.

Before the altercation, when force was used it was self-reported.

Taylor said that policy has now been changed so that all physical exchanges between officers and suspects, even minor ones, must be reviewed by the patrol commanders who will report anything questionable to the chief.

In addition to Lawton's firing, a second officer involved was allowed to resign. A third is facing an internal review. □

Associated Press

3D printer gun plans seller pleads guilty to sex with minor

By CLARICE SILBER
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The founder of a Texas company that sells plans for making untraceable 3D printed guns pleaded guilty Friday to having sex with an underage girl.

Travis County Assistant District Attorney Joe Frederick said Cody Wilson pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of injury to a child under a plea deal with prosecutors. Wilson initially faced sexual assault charges.

Frederick said prosecutors met extensively with

the victim and her parents before reaching the plea agreement.

"And after several months of going through the case and talking with them about what they desired and what they wished, we felt that this was a satisfactory conclusion to the case," Frederick said.

Wilson's attorney did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The recommended sentence would keep Wilson out of prison while requiring him to register as a sex offender for seven years and

serve deferred adjudication probation.

Wilson would also have to pay a \$1,200 fine, perform community service hours and possibly attend treatment counseling. He would not be able to own a firearm while serving probation.

Wilson was arrested in Taiwan last year, where police say he flew after learning he was being investigated over the allegations.

Authorities said Wilson met the girl through the SugarDaddyMeet.com dating website. □



In this Aug. 1, 2018, file photo, Cody Wilson, with Defense Distributed, holds a 3D-printed gun called the Liberator at his shop, in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

Ship carrying migrants stranded while waiting for safe port

By COLLEEN BARRY
RENATA BRITO

Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — A Spanish humanitarian ship has been stuck in the Mediterranean Sea for more than a week because no European government will offer safe harbor to the 121 migrants on board, and the vessel faces a fine of up to 1 million euros if it enters Italian waters.

The Open Arms was idle for an eighth day Friday in waters off Italy's southernmost island. The ship's dilemma is becoming increasingly common as European governments shut their doors to migrants, led by Italy's firebrand Interior Minister Matteo Salvini, who is popular for his hardline stance against migrant arrivals and who this week plunged Italy into a political crisis in an apparent play for power.

Open Arms founder Oscar Camps indicated that the vessel would avoid entering Italian waters without permission unless there is a humanitarian crisis on board, as allowed by international maritime law.

"Salvini can say what he wants, but maritime law and the courts will say what they have to say," Camps told Catalunya Radio on Wednesday. "If we have serious health problems on board ... we will enter (port) here or wherever we are, the closest place, today and any other day because we are backed by law."

Malta also refused to let the ship in, while Spain demurred, saying it is not the



Migrants are seen aboard the Open Arms Spanish humanitarian boat as it cruises in the Mediterranean Sea, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

closest safe port, the humanitarian group said.

The EU Commission said Friday that it has not received any requests from a national government to intervene, as it typically requires. But spokeswoman Annika Breidhardt said the commission was reaching out to member states "to show solidarity." She noted a solution depended on "the willingness" of member states to step up.

In a bid to draw attention to the standoff, Richard Gere boarded the ship Friday some 27 nautical miles off Lampedusa. The actor helped bring food and supplies to the boat and asked for support for the ship, whose passengers include 9-month-old Ethio-

pian twins.

"The most important thing for these people here is to be able to get to a free port, to get off the boat, to get on land and start a new life," Gere said, urging the world to "please support us here on Open Arms and help these people, our brothers and sisters."

Pope Francis, long a champion of the migrants, repeated in an interview with the Italian daily La Stampa that the treatment of migrants "must never leave out the most important right of all: that of life."

"Immigrants arrive mostly to flee war or hunger, from the Middle East to Africa," he said.

Such standoffs have persisted over the last 14 months

since Italy's populist government took office and Salvini became interior minister. He blames the EU and other member states for leaving Italy alone to manage migrant arrivals for too long. He likens rescue ships to migrant taxi services and raised the stakes this week by winning parliamentary approval for a new security decree that increased fines on ships entering Italian waters without permission to 1 million euros from 50,000 euros. The law has been scorned by the U.N. refugee agency, which says it could deter rescue by private vessels at a moment when European government have largely halted their patrols.

Italian President Sergio Mat-

tarella signed the decree Thursday with reservations. He noted that the steep fine is to be applied without regard for the scale of the offense, against a high court ruling on penal sanctions. By that interpretation, for example, a sailboat carrying one migrant would face the same penalty as a ship with dozens or more. The security decree was already in the works when German Capt. Carola Rackete defied Salvini and entered an Italian port against orders of authorities, citing a state of necessity after 17 days stuck at sea with 40 rescued migrants. She is under two investigations, one for entering Italian waters against direct orders and another for allegedly aiding illegal immigrations.

Besides Open Arms, just one other ship is operating in the Mediterranean. The German NGO Sea-Eye said Friday it was leaving the search-and-rescue zone five days after transferring 40 migrants to Malta military ships after Germany made a direct request and agreed to take some of the migrants. A Norwegian-flagged ship operated by the humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders rescued 85 migrants from a rubber dinghy off Libya on Friday — but made no immediate request for a port. Others that have been active in the central Mediterranean appear to be on standby waiting to see how the latest standoffs — and Salvini's threat — play out. □



A worker sprays an adhesive product on the ground to gather up the lead particles in the school yard of Saint Benoit primary school in Paris, France, Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019.

Associated Press

Notre Dame cleanup to resume Aug. 19 amid tighter safety

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Paris regional authorities say decontamination and cleanup work at Notre Dame cathedral will resume on Aug. 19 after new equipment and stricter safety procedures ensure workers are not exposed to unsafe levels of lead. The administration suspended the job of removing

hazardous substances from the fire-ravaged cathedral last month under pressure from labor inspectors concerned about health risks for workers.

Paris authorities said Friday new equipment, including decontamination units, will be operational by the end of next week. They said this will prevent "any release of

polluting elements to the outside."

Hundreds of tons of lead in Notre Dame's spire and roof melted during the April fire.

This week, workers have started decontaminating some Paris schools as part of efforts to protect children from risks of lead poisoning. □

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Clashes in southern Yemen; rebels leader's brother killed

By AHMED AL-HAJ
NOHA ELHENNAWY
Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Fighting between Yemeni government forces and southern separatists entered the third day Friday, leaving more than 20 killed, including five civilians, officials said.

The clashes could further complicate Yemen's bloody civil war and fracture the government side in the conflict. The government forces, backed by a Saudi-led coalition, have been battling rebels since 2015.

Also on Friday, the rebel Houthis announced the brother of their leader was killed by the Saudi-led coalition.

The announcement by the rebel-run Interior Ministry in the capital, Sanaa, posted on the rebel Almasirah website offered no details on the killing of Ibrahim al-Houthi, brother of rebel leader Abdel-Malek al-Houthi.

Yemeni security officials said people allied with the Saudi-led coalition killed Ibrahim al-Houthi and an associate in Sanaa earlier this week. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

Farea Al-Muslimi, a visiting researcher with Chatham House, a London-based policy institute, said Ibrahim was a low-level figure who the Houthi leader used as a special envoy.

Abdel-Malek "used to rely on him to do political mediation, convey certain mes-



In this Monday, Aug. 5, 2019 photo, fighters from a militia known as the Security Belt, that is funded and armed by the United Arab Emirates, head to their training camp, in an area called Moreys, in Yemen's Dhale province.

sages, strike political deals, or send threats, but the latter did not have any official title or position within the group," he said.

The rebel statement said Ibrahim was "assassinated by treacherous hands" in the Saudi-led alliance fighting the rebels on behalf of Yemen's internationally recognized government.

Yemen's stalemated war between the Iran-aligned Houthis and the government has claimed tens of thousands of lives, thrust millions to the brink of famine and spawned the world's most devastating humanitarian crisis.

The rebels control the country's north and Sanaa, while government forces of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi hold mainly southern Yemen.

But the south is also a

stronghold of Yemen's separatists, who have clashed with Hadi's forces since Wednesday. Paradoxically, the separatists are supported by the United Arab Emirates, a key member of the Saudi-led alliance and as such, a Hadi ally — at least in theory.

Some 20 people were killed, including five civilians, and dozens were wounded in the violence, according to doctors in the southern port city of Aden and security officials, who all spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters. The clashes have pitted Hadi's guards against a UAE-backed militia known as Security Belt. Hani Bin Braik, deputy head of the so-called Southern Transitional Council, had called upon separatists to march

on the presidential palace in Aden and topple Hadi.

The government, in turn, has accused the separatist leader of fomenting sedition that would only serve the rebels and called upon the Saudi and Emirati governments to press the separatists to halt their attacks. The International Crisis Group warned Friday the fighting would "make an already multi-faceted conflict even more complex and intractable."

"Such a conflict would deepen what is already the world's worst humanitarian crisis and make a national political settlement harder to achieve," read a statement issued by the Brussels-based group.

Similar clashes erupted in January 2018 when separatists attempted to seize government facilities and

military bases in Aden. Peace was restored after a few weeks.

"We have seen what happens when you simply put a lid on things. In January 2018 the conflict was simply frozen in place and this is the result of that," said Peter Salisbury, senior analyst with ICG, a non-profit research institute.

A political and security arrangement envisaging a cease-fire and the inclusion of separatists into the government could serve as a long-term solution to the conflict, Salisbury explained.

Videos showing Hadi's forces on Aden streets carrying machine guns and cheering to prove they were in full control were circulated online. Hadi's fighters chanted "God is great, and we are all with legitimacy, we are all Abed Rabbo." In some of the videos, gunshots could be heard in the background and vehicle-mounted weapons could be seen.

The national airline, Yemina Airways, the only operating airline in and out of Yemen, on Thursday diverted all flights to Seiyun airport, nearly 840 kilometers (522 miles) northeast of Aden airport due to the volatile situation.

The International Rescue Committee announced Friday that it would suspend its aid operations in Aden citing the ongoing clashes. "This spike in violence and instability is damaging vital infrastructure, including water supply, and will complicate aid efforts," the IRC said in a statement. □

Cyprus' rival leaders ready to meet UN chief next month

BY MENELAOS HADJICOSTIS
Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—The leaders of the ethnically divided east Mediterranean island of Cyprus are ready to meet with the U.N. secretary-general next month to map out possible next steps toward a resumption of formal reunification talks, officials said Friday.

U.N. spokesman Aleem Siddique said in a statement that the two would carry on discussions with U.N. envoy Jane Holl Lute to prepare the ground for "structured and results-oriented" negotiations leading to a peace deal "with a sense of urgency."

Siddique issued the statement after Greek Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades and Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci held private talks for nearly four hours.

Anastasiades said after the talks inside a U.N. protected area that separates the internationally recognized Greek Cypriot south and the breakaway, Turkish Cypriot north that Lute's contacts aimed at preparing a meeting with U.N. chief Antonio Guterres.

The hoped-for meeting with Guterres would take place after next month's U.N. General Assembly session



In this photo released from Cyprus' Press and Informations Office, Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades and UN Secretary General's Special Representative to Cyprus Elizabeth Spehar, before their talks with Turkish Cypriot leader in Nicosia, Cyprus, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

in New York and would size up prospects for a resumption of peace talks, two years after they collapsed at a Swiss Alpine resort.

An informal conference involving officials from Cyprus' 'guarantors' Greece, Turkey and Britain would precede formal peace talks to ensure that all sides would be working toward the same goal.

"We have a good climate, we have a common basis on which talks can take place, but I must admit that

disagreements remain on serious matters," Anastasiades told reporters.

Numerous attempts at reaching a reunification deal over the past 45 years have gone nowhere.

Cyprus was split in 1974 when Turkey invaded following a coup by supporters of union with Greece and numerous attempts at clinching a peace deal since have gone nowhere. Only Turkey recognizes a Turkish Cypriot declaration of independence and

keeps more than 35,000 troops in the north.

Greek Cypriots are wary of any deal that would put an envisioned federated Cyprus under what they see as the direct or indirect control of Turkey.

They reject Turkish Cypriot demands for a permanent Turkish troop presence and veto power on all government decisions on the federal level.

Turkish Cypriots object to what they see as being relegated to junior powers

in a new partnership and seek federal decision-making parity with the majority Greek Cypriots.

However, Akinci said he would take a closer look at Anastasiades' proposal to cede more power to each federated part in the running of its own affairs.

Anastasiades repeated that peace talks can't resume if Turkey doesn't stop unlawful gas drilling in waters where Cyprus has exclusive economic rights.

Turkish vessels are currently drilling for gas on either end of Cyprus in response to the Cyprus government's own gas search within its exclusive economic zone. Turkey doesn't recognize Cyprus as a state and says that it's only defending its rights and those of Turkish Cypriots to the area's energy reserves.

Anastasiades repeated that a Turkish Cypriot proposal for a joint committee to manage gas drilling is a non-starter because it's a matter for sovereign governments to decide what goes on in their territorial waters.

He said Turkish Cypriots' rights to the island's energy reserves are assured, but that he would be willing to brief Akinci on drilling developments. □

Canadian citizen freed from Syria after Lebanese mediation

By SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A Canadian citizen held in Syrian prisons since last year and freed after Lebanese mediation said Friday he had no idea if anyone knew he was still alive.

Kristian Lee Baxter appeared emotional and at times jittery at a press conference in the Lebanese capital Beirut. The Lebanese general who mediated his release said Baxter was heading home. It was not clear when Baxter was released from Syria.

Details of Baxter's detention were not immediately available but Canadian media reported last December he was detained while in war-torn Syria,



This handout photo by the Lebanese General Security Directorate, shows Maj. Gen. Abbas Ibrahim, left, Lebanon's General Security Chief, speaks with Canadian citizen Kristian Lee Baxter, center, who was released from Syrian prisons to Lebanon, during a press conference in Beirut, Lebanon, Friday, Aug 9, 2019.

Associated Press

where he was traveling seeking an adventure. Canadian officials declined to provide further information,

citing privacy provisions. Lebanon's General Security Chief Abbas Ibrahim said Baxter was detained

for what Syrian authorities considered a "major violation" of local laws, adding that authorities there may have considered the incident security related. He didn't elaborate.

Baxter appeared briefly on a podium, shared with Ibrahim and the Canadian ambassador to Lebanon, Emmanuelle Lamoureux. He was emotional and choked on his words as he tried to hold back tears.

"I'd just like to thank the Canadian embassy for helping me," Baxter said, reaching to hold the shoulder of the Canadian ambassador. "I would like to thank the Lebanese for helping me get free. I thought I would be there forever, honestly." He added, wiping his eyes:

"I didn't know if anyone knew if I was alive."

Baxter's release marked the second time Lebanon has helped free a foreigner held in Syria.

Last month, Ibrahim also mediated the release of an American traveler, Sam Goodwin, held in Syria for two months.

The circumstances of Goodwin's detention in northeastern Syria in May were unclear.

Syrian prisons are brimming with government opponents after nearly nine years of civil war. Rebels were also responsible for a wave of kidnapping for ransom, while Islamic State militants beheaded foreign captives as part of their terror campaign. □

Roadmap for India's troubled Kashmir under its new status

By SHEIKH SAALIQ

Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has promised early elections for the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir days after stripping the Muslim-majority region of statehood and turning it into a federally administered territory.

Under its new status, the territory will have an elected assembly but will function under the control of the federal government in New Delhi. The constitutional changes also eliminate Kashmir's right to its own constitution, limit its decision-making power and allow non-Kashmiri Indians to settle there.

Modi introduced the changes this week as India's Election Commission was already working on a schedule for elections in Kashmir before the end of the year. Kashmir, a restive Himalayan region, is claimed by both Hindu-majority India and its archrival, Muslim-majority Pakistan, although each controls only a portion of it. Rebels have been fighting Indian rule since 1989.

In a speech late Thursday, Modi said the changes will help free the disputed region of "terrorism and separatism" and put it on a path to development. Kashmiri leaders have labeled the changes "the darkest day" in India's democracy.



In this Thursday, March 14, 2019, file photo, an Indian paramilitary soldier holds a flag of India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as he stands guard during a meeting of the party ahead of the upcoming elections in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir.

WHAT DID MODI SAY?

Modi said Kashmir is ready to undo decades of neglect by a political system dominated by two families, which he said had bred dynastic rule and corruption. He also rejected criticism that the new assembly would have little power with key decisions made by the federal government. A lieutenant governor appointed by New Delhi will oversee the region's governance.

"Your representative will be chosen only by you," he said. "I assure you that you will get an opportunity to elect your representatives very soon with full transpar-

ency."

WHAT'S LIKELY TO HAPPEN?

Indian-controlled Kashmir plunged into a political crisis last year when a coalition between Modi's Hindu nationalist party and a powerful regional group, the People's Democratic Party, collapsed, mainly over differences on the region's future status. Modi's government put the state under direct New Delhi rule in June last year.

It's unclear how many voters would participate in any elections, with many Kashmiris angry over an unprecedented security clampdown imposed by Modi's government along

with the changes in the region's status.

Kashmir has a history of low voter turnout, a reflection of discontent as well as boycott calls by separatist groups seeking the region's independence or merger with Pakistan.

Voter turnout was just 19% in national elections held in the region in May-June. Mainstream Kashmir politicians oppose the latest changes, and several have been detained by Indian authorities, including two former top elected officials.

WHAT ELSE DOES MODI PLAN?

The Modi government may give voting rights to thou-

sands of refugees, including Hindus, who entered Kashmir after the creation of Muslim-majority Pakistan in 1947. Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party has long advocated citizenship and voting rights for the migrants from Pakistan.

Modi said Kashmir's new status would give its people the right to education, a minimum wage law and statutes ensuring the rights of minorities, saying the region's past special status had deprived it of them.

He said an end to the insurgency would boost tourism in Kashmir, known for its stunning mountain vistas, and encourage outside investment that would improve its economy.

Associated Press

PAKISTAN'S ROLE

Nuclear-armed rival Pakistan has reacted strongly to the changes in disputed Kashmir by downgrading diplomatic relations with India and ending bilateral trade.

Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi is visiting China as part of efforts to pressure India to reverse its decision.

Pakistan said it will continue to give moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiris opposed to Indian rule. India accuses Pakistan of providing arms and training to rebels to attack Indian forces and other targets, a charge Islamabad denies. □

Nagasaki mayor laments nuclear arms are seen as useful

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Nagasaki marked the 74th anniversary of the atomic bombing on Friday, as the mayor criticized nuclear states including the U.S. and Russia for challenging survivors' efforts toward a nuclear-free world. Nagasaki Mayor Tomihisa Taue lamented in his peace declaration that the opinion that nuclear weapons are useful is gaining traction. He said both the U.S. and Russia are returning to development and deployment of nuclear weapons after the Interme-

diate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty was dissolved.

"The present world situation involving nuclear weapons is extremely dangerous," he said. "The achievements of human kind and the results of our longstanding efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons are collapsing one after another, and the danger of a nuclear calamity is mounting."

Taue urged world leaders to visit the atomic-bombed cities and learn firsthand the inhumanity of nuclear weapons.

On Aug. 9, 1945, the U.S. bombing of Nagasaki, a

second atomic attack on Japan, killed 70,000 people and was followed by Japan's surrender ending World War II. The first atomic bombing on Aug. 6 on Hiroshima killed another 140,000. Many survivors have developed cancer or other illnesses because of the impact from their exposure to radiation and suffered discrimination.

Survivors and other participants marked the 11:02 a.m. blast with a minute of silence. Taue also joined Hiroshima's call for Japan's government to do more to ban nuclear weapons. □



Children look at candles lit up at Peace Park in Nagasaki Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, a day before the 74th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of the southwestern Japan city.

Associated Press

Argentine election season begins with much-watched primaries

By **ALMUDENA CALATRAVA**
DÉBORA REY

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Argentines are entering the tightest presidential race since the return of the country's democracy with conservative President Mauricio Macri facing an opposition ticket including ex-President Cristina Fernández, and primary elections Sunday are expected to provide a hint of who might win October's vote.

Party primaries are closely watched in Argentina because they are held simultaneously and voting is obligatory, so they are seen as referendum on candidates' popularity — effectively an early poll involving the entire electorate.

This year's primaries will be "a great orchestra rehearsal (for the Oct 27 election) in which we are going to see which instruments will play, which will play loudly and which will be silenced," said Luis Tonelli, a political science professor at the University of Buenos Aires.

He said he hasn't seen an electoral process "this close and with this much uncertainty" since a seven-year military dictatorship ended in 1983. He described it as "a tossed coin hanging in



Argentina's President Mauricio Macri campaigns ahead of this weekend's presidential primary elections in Cordoba, Argentina, Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2019.

the air."

Markets could go up or down depending on whether the business-friendly Macri or center-left ticket of Alberto Fernández and Cristina Fernández poll favorably on Sunday. Alberto Fernández was the former president's chief of staff during her initial term from 2007-2011, and she surprised many people when she announced that she would be the vice presidential candidate while he runs for president.

If no candidate wins outright in October, there

would be a November runoff.

Macri, the son of one of Argentina's most powerful businessmen, assumed the presidency in 2015, promising to revive a moribund economy with free-market policies, greater transparency and an opening to international markets. He said he would improve relations with the United States, which had soured under Fernández.

But the South American country is struggling through an economic crisis involving high inflation,

a plunging peso currency and 10% unemployment, which has hurt his popularity. Protests erupted after his government reduced subsidies, sharply increasing utility bills.

"Factories are closing every week, both in the provinces and in Buenos Aires," said Estela Durán, a 73-year-old retiree who hoped Fernández would return to power, even if only as vice president.

Some Argentines support Macri's austerity over the populism of the former president, who has been

Associated Press

hounded by corruption allegations. She faces a series of trials, including for accusations she collected bribes in exchange for public works projects. She denies the charges.

Rubén Oliveros, 29, thanks Macri for having a job and said he would give him a new opportunity because he is confident the South American country will progress "along this path."

"I feel it's a sacrifice we make to have a better country," he said, referring to Macri's austerity measures. In a campaign event, Macri said the choice will determine whether the country "continues moving forward or returns to the past." Fernández counters that Argentines need to leave behind their current "ugly" reality. "I never thought I'd see entire families living on the street again," Cristina Fernández said.

The primaries also could have an economic impact. A Fernández victory would hit markets, said Matías Carugati, chief economist at Management & Fit consultancy. "The closer Alberto (Fernández) is to 45% support, the more nervous investors will be, because that is the percentage that defines" a win in October. □

Brazil top court prevents investigation into US journalist

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Brazil's top court says officials cannot investigate U.S. journalist Glenn Greenwald for his work or for protecting confidential sources — a ruling praised Friday by press rights groups.

The Committee to Protect Journalists said the ruling by Justice Gilmar Mendes "reinforces the principle of confidentiality of sources, which is paramount to the protection of a free press." But the committee added that it remained "concerned about the deteriorating conditions for the independent press in the country." Greenwald is the co-founder of The Intercept Brasil, a news website



Journalist Glenn Greenwald, left, reaches out to pat his son's head during an act in support of Greenwald at the Brazilian Press Association headquarters in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Tuesday, July 30, 2019.

Associated Press

that has published a series of reports based on leaked chats raising questions about whether Brazil's justice minister, Sergio Moro, improperly consulted with prosecutors when he was a judge.

According to the reports, Moro, whose contribution to the anti-graft probe known as "Car Wash" has made him a hero for many Brazilians, allegedly orientated prosecutors in a case that led to the jailing of former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

If Moro and "Car Wash" prosecutors teamed up, it could lead to the annulment of sentences.

Moro said he could not confirm the truthfulness of

the leaked messages, to which he no longer has access. Both he and prosecutors deny any wrongdoing. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro has sharply criticized Greenwald for the articles and suggested he should be jailed.

Justice Mendes said Thursday that "the constitutional secrecy" around journalistic sources prevented the Brazilian state from using "coercive measures" against Greenwald. A statement from the Supreme Federal Court said press freedom was a "pillar" of democracy protected not only by the Brazilian constitution but also international human rights treaties to which Brazil is a signatory. □

The 11th edition of Aruba International Regatta is ready to start

ORANJESTAD — This year on August 16th, 17th and 18th will take place the 11th edition of Aruba International Regatta. A weekend of action and competition for big yachts, beach cats, and smaller boats like sunfishes and optimists as well as for windsurfers and micro boats; three evenings of music and party for all participants and spectators at the beach.

The sailors will compete for the overall trophy for the winner in the most competitive class. For the youngest sailors there will be optimist and sail qube races and there will be races for the wind surfers. At Gouverneurs beach there will be a micro boat races and a workshop on building organized by Rancho Foundation.

At Surfside Beach, next to the airport, a regatta village will be built to ensure entertainment, music, food and beverage and a spectacular view on the races. More than 40 sailing races

will take place in the waters of Oranjestad Harbour on August 17 and 18 from 9 AM until 5 PM. The Aruba International Regatta is not only an event for the participants in the races: the regatta village is a gathering point for people who want to enjoy a view of the races or have a relaxed afternoon on the beach in the regatta-mood. For the third year in a row, the Aruba Regatta Foundation has received a gold award from the Sailors for the Sea – Clean Regattas campaign, also this year's edition will be dedicated to the sustainable clean sailing campaign and all possible efforts will be made to reuse, reduce and recycle the resources for the event. All events and races take place at Surfside Beach. Together with sponsors like Studio Advisory, ALBO, Tranquilo charters, Power Systems, ASD, ADCTRA, ISS Security, ISC Insurance Software Caribe, Camacuri Residence & Apartments and with the support of the



Dutch Marines, this regatta will surely be an event you shouldn't miss! Most participants are already preparing for the races and a number of international competitors have already confirmed their participation in the races.

You can pre-register for the races thru their contact form on their website www.aruba-regatta.com or checkout their facebook page Aruba International Regatta for more information. □



Digital Animations in Papiamento on YouTube

ORANJESTAD — Nowadays our children are constantly confronted with digital entertainment media like YouTube and Netflix, where the videos being shown are in English generally. What you have probably noticed, is that this makes it very popular for kids to communicate in English with each other as well.

Kids are also reading a lot less because of all this new age technology that is available and if the kids or their parents would like to catch up on their reading, the material that is available in Papiamento is really limited, especially for children between the ages of 0-5 years.

With the support of UNOCA and Fundacion Lanta Papiamento, Mrs. Jessica van Montfoort-Posner and her husband Mr. Marald van Montfoort came up with a new concept where they created a board book in Papiamento for kids up to age 5, which features a purple spider named, "Nini."

They also created digital animations in Papiamento posted on YouTube that teaches kids to count, colors, animals, our typical Aruban



songs for kids and much more in a fun and innovative fashion.

"As parents of two kids of the ages of 2 and 4, we were always amazed how they learned the different shaped, colors, how to count in English through video's on YouTube. This is when we thought, "we should have this in Papiamento as well!" Jessica van Montfoort comments.

"From our own personal experience as parents, we learned that there are two ways for kids to learn a language in a fun way. You have the "offline" method, where you

can help them learn the language through entertaining stories and illustrations and there is the "online" method, which is currently changing the world and the way kids learn and get entertained. Even though the latter is taking over the kids their attention, we noticed that it is important for them to still receive both and have a good "online" and "offline" balance." Jessica continued.

Jessica explains that this was the incentive for them to create a book (books) and audiovisual entertainment and educational videos too. In this way, they can enrich the Pa-

pimento language among children.

"Another very positive effect that we have noticed the digital animations having on the kids is that they bring the characters of the book to live, making them extra excited about the book and wanting to know more about the characters." Jessica explains.

Jessica also emphasizes on the importance of the bonding effect that reading a book with your children can have, creating a special moment where your family can strengthen its relationship by taking this time to be together.

For the ones that are interested, they can visit the YouTube channel through: bit.ly/funwithnini or search for fun-withnini in Youtube.

The book itself called "Nini ta sa-likeiro", which tells the story about the adventure of Nini the spider at Philip's Animal Garden is available at Bruna Aruba, Plaza Bookshop, DeWit&VanDorp, Giselle department store and Casa at Superfood. □

Neighbors: Trustworthy Doctor & Great Equipped Pharmacy

- Both in walking distance from resorts -



PALM BEACH — Doctor Lili Beke from the Walk-In Clinic has a solid reputation, built up in more than 35 years of experience as a medical doctor. Both tourists and locals feel great with her for the simple reasons that she has the qualities of a great doctor: communicative, skilled, empathetic and trustworthy. Unique is the fact that you can walk into this clinic without an appointment and that the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy she partners up with is literally next door. When you feel sick during vacation you want this out of your system as soon as possible and a convenient solution is forehanded. Don't look any further, help is just around the corner. A one-stop-shopping solution.

Top 5 Vacation Illnesses

The most common reasons why patients walk into her clinic sound very familiar. Doctor Beke: "When on vacation you are excited so you mix meals, eat without control and combine this with more alcohol than usual resulting in an upset stomach. Digestion issues occur and when on a diet you can count on it that you will get sick." Throwing up, diarrhea, dehydration will be a bummer on your vacation. "Second occasion why people step in here is medication. They feel sick because they forgot to take their medicines with them or simply think they don't need it on holiday. But of course the body does not work differently only because you are in another place." This happens especially with patients of higher age and many times with blood pressure medication and psychological medicines, the doctor explains. "As we have the pharmacy next door we can solve this in most cases very quick so you will soon feel better again. Then of course we have the allergies, force majeure but still a hassle. Too much sun bathing is another thing causing dehydration and sun burns."

"I strongly advise to buy a new sunblock cream every vacation. Our pharmacy sells the most advanced ones that is environmental friendly, so not damaging the sea life." As fifth most common reason for patients to come see the doctor she mentions exhaustion. "You want to do everything in a short time and by the end of the day the body is exhausted, giving a reversed reaction. Take it easy please, moderate or like we say here: chill." Besides this top 5 the doctor is visited by patients with chronic diseases that often contact her in advance to travelling.

The Little Ones

With regards to children Dr. Beke advises parents to keep an extra eye on them during vacation. "They are excited, cannot hold control, play all day in the sand and pool and eat a lot of different things. But they are sensitive and you do not want your loved ones waking up in the middle of the night vomiting or with diarrhea." Asthmatic children should be taken care of extra as the sun, water and strong draft on the island can complicate their condition. "Protect the heads of your kids, we are close to the equator and the sun rays are more rectangular thus stronger. The heat and humidity can exhaust the little bodies easily. Let them play under an umbrella preferably and keep drinking water. At the pharmacy you can buy ear plugs to prevent ear infections." The doctor stresses that there is no doubt about drinking tap water. "The water of Aruba is the best. You can drink that without problems. It is excellent. In the States it is prepared with a lot of chemicals, but here it's clean."

Locals

Doctor Beke has a loyal local patient pool staying with her mainly because of the experience and trust. "They tell me I really listen to them, they feel attended and respected. A patient is a human being, not a casus, unfortunately many times doctors are skilled in the medical part but not on the social terrain." The latter is more and more important, especially with certain groups like teenage girls. "They prefer a female doctor to treat typical woman issues. The desire is attention and to feel at ease." Patients step in for second opinions too. "Everybody has the right to do that, it is their body and their money."

Pharmacy Convenience

After you pick up your prescription at Dr. Beke's practice, you can go to the Palm Beach Service Pharmacy, right next door. The collaboration between these two results in a quick, efficient and quality service. It's just what you need when you feel the only thing you want is healing. Lennert van der Poel, general manager of the pharmacy, which is part of a group of 5 pharmacies (Botica di Servicio), points out that convenience is not their only unique asset. "We carry a wide variety of medicines from the US, but most of the medicines come from the EU. The prices in the EU are considerably lower than in the U.S." All medicines are European registered with the same standard as U.S. products. "The law in the States allows visitors to get prescribed medicine by a local doctor for up to 6 months, saving them a ton of money.", says van der Poel. Most common medicines requested by visitors are antibiotic, pain killers and anti-allergy medications. However, certain things do not need prescription, such as contact lenses. These don't need a prescription to get them on the island. "We've recently started importing our own 'house brand' of contact lenses called 'Optinova', and the feedback has been amazing", elaborates Van der Poel, "We carry both daily and monthly lenses, which are an ideal substitute if you forget yours when coming on vacation, or even if you would like to take some home, which is why we've seen so many return customers."

Naturally we wish you the healthiest, most wonderful vacation of your life on our Happy Island. But In case you are in need of a doctor and a pharmacy, just turn around, walk in and feel welcome to be cured!☑

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Palm Beach Service Pharmacy T: +297 587 1717 www.boticadiservicio.com info@boticadiservicio.com Unit 8 at "The Cove" Palm Beach Open Mon-Sat 10 am – 4 pm</p> | <p>Aruba Walk-in Clinic T: +297 588 539 or +297 594 0539(emergency) lgbeke.md@gmail.com Unit 9 at "The Cove" Palm Beach Open during weekdays (Friday afternoon 2pm–4.30pm) 9am–12pm, 2.30–5pm Saturday, Sunday & Holidays 2pm – 4 pm</p> |
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Honoring Goodwill Ambassadors at Divi Phoenix

EAGLE — Recently, Ms. Darline S. de Cuba had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

The honorees were Maher & Mervat Sidhom residents of Edison New Jersey who have been coming to the island for 25 consecutive years. The lovely couple stated that there are many reasons why they love coming to the island such as the lovely weather, the many activities, the cleanliness of the island. They love the Aruban people because they are polite and very helpful. Most of all they love the employees of the Divi Phoenix Resort for the cooperation they always provide.

Ms. Darline de Cuba together with representatives of the Divi Phoenix thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



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Community Gardening



The National Library of Aruba presents another edition of the Sustainable Education Symposium (SES) which will take place, September 2-6, 2019 at the library in Oranjestad. This year's theme is 'Hof' Bario' (Community gardening).

The symposium will take place in the week of September 2nd until the 6th, 2019, and will be providing presentations to students of secondary school and advanced learning. Lectures will be given by Mrs. Ingela Laclé and Mrs. Nathalie Maduro of the department of Agriculture (Santa Rosa), Mr. Gregory Fung A Fat of the United Farmers Aruba, Mr. James Ocalia and Mrs. Joase-Anne van der Biest of BAZ-RRR Galleria & Brasserie. Also a lecture will be given by the international speaker, Mr. Henk van Dort from Holland. The schools that will be taking part to the symposium are Colegio San Nicolas, John Wesley MAVO, EPB Oranjestad, Abraham

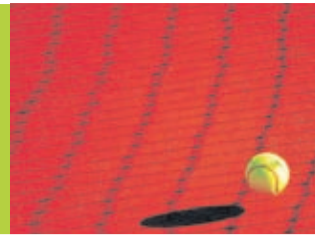
de Veerschool MAVO, IPA, Mon Plaisir College MAVO and Filomena College, MAVO.

In the afternoon there will be workshops for the students between ages of 6-17 from 2:00Pm to 4:00PM. Registration is required at 582 1580. The workshop is completely free.

Public Lecture: The lecture will take place on Wednesday, September 4th, 2019 at Cas Di Cultura (Aruba's House of Culture) from 7:00PM-9:00PM. □



SPORTS



Korea's Mi Jung Hur smiles following her birdie at the 16th hole, during day two of the Ladies Golf Scottish Open at the Renaissance Club, in North Berwick, England, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

Hur shoots 62, leads weather-delayed Ladies Scottish Open

NORTH BERWICK, Scotland (AP) — Mi Jung Hur surged into a two-shot lead Friday in the rain-delayed second round of the Ladies Scottish Open, getting the best of the draw and finishing in the early evening with a 9-under 62. Players with morning tee times dealt with heavy wind and rain at The Renaissance Club, and play was suspended in the early afternoon, delaying the start times for half of the field and giving them a huge advantage as the sun came out and the wind died. The second round could not be completed Friday because of darkness. Hur, who started on No. 10, made only one par over her first 12 holes. The South Korean began with two birdies and then holed a 25-yard pitch-and-run from the rough for eagle on the par-5 12th.

Continued on Page 18



CARDINAL DEBUT

Kyler Murray sharp in brief debut as Cards edge Chargers

Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray (1) throws against the Los Angeles Chargers during the first half of an NFL preseason football game, Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press
Page 20

Johnson takes 1-shot lead over Spieth at Liberty National

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) —

Dustin Johnson has missed nine birdie chances from 10 feet or closer at Liberty National, which ordinarily might annoy him.

He's hitting it so well that he still leads The Northern Trust Open. Johnson birdied three of his last six holes Friday, finishing with an approach to 8 feet on the 489-yard closing hole, for a 4-under 67 that gave him a one-shot lead over Jordan Spieth (64) going into the weekend. Johnson has won this FedEx Cup playoffs opener twice at other courses. He was at 12-under 130. "I've got a lot of control with the golf ball and hitting a lot of really nice shots and rolled in a couple putts today which is nice, but still feel like I left quite a few out there," Johnson said. "I'm in a good position heading into the weekend, and if I can keep swinging the way I am, I think it's going to be a good weekend."

Spieth might be finding some form at just the right time. Winless in more than two years, he started the PGA Tour's postseason at No. 69 in the FedEx Cup with no assurance of staying among the top 70 who advance to next week at Medinah. He might be one round away from thinking



Jordan Spieth hits out of the rough on the tenth hole during the Northern Trust golf tournament, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019, at Liberty National Golf Club in Jersey City, N.J.

more about winning. Spieth was on the same score (131) that he was going into the weekend last week at the Wyndham Championship, where he followed with a 77 and missed the 54-hole cut. His shots have been tighter, his misses not that severe and he even got some good fortune on his final hole that led to a birdie and a spot in the last group with a familiar face. Johnson and Spieth have played together at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am

each of the last five years. The opening playoff event had a strong cast of contenders, with Jon Rahm and Patrick Reed two shots behind, and Justin Rose and Rory McIlroy among those another shot back. McIlroy was just happy he wasn't farther behind. He walked off the par-3 14th with a double bogey because of a two-shot penalty from the bunker. McIlroy went to remove a small stone next to his ball, but realized when he touched

it and it disintegrated that it was a clump of wet sand from a brief storm delay.

The original ruling was a penalty. The PGA Tour reviewed it as McIlroy played the last four holes, spoke to him after the round and determined that was no intent to improve his lie. His 70 became a 68.

"The reason I called someone over is I don't want anything on my conscience, either," McIlroy said. "I feel like I play the game with integrity and I'm

Associated Press

comfortable saying that I didn't improve anything. I thought it was a rock. It wasn't. I moved my hand away, and then I was like, 'I don't know if I've done anything wrong here.'

"It came down to me and they said, 'OK, are you comfortable telling us you didn't improve your lie?' And for me, I am comfortable saying that."

Missing the cut meant the end of the season for at least two dozen players who would not be among the top 70, which includes Bubba Watson. Sergio Garcia would appear to be a casualty having started at No. 65 and not making it to the weekend. The first step for Spieth was to make sure he stayed in the top 70. Now it's about contending.

"The important thing for me is not to get ahead of myself," Spieth said. "Historically, I'm a very consistent player. I've lost a bit of that. I still have the firepower but that consistency is what I'm trying to get back, and there's certainly going to be times where I'm out of position over the weekend. It's about limiting mistakes. One bogey over 36 holes is somewhat unrealistic week to week. But if I can hold it close to that for the next 36, again, that firepower is still there. And it would certainly shoot my confidence up." □

Scottish Open

Continued from Page 17

She made six more birdies, along with two bogeys, over her next nine, and added one more birdie to post a two-day total of 14-under 128.

"I got a really lucky draw for this week. I had the morning yesterday and afternoon today," Hur said. "I know it was really tough this morning, but sometimes I need luck for those things." None of the players who started in the morning was inside the top 20.

Moriya Jutanugarn was 12 under after a 66. Sharing third at 10 under were U.S. Women's Open champion Jeongeun Lee6 (65) and

Anne van Dam, who followed her opening-round 63 with a 69.

"I think if we get decent weather, low scores are out there," van Dam said. "If it will get rainy and more windy, maybe two rounds around par will be fine. So I have no clue."

Muni He was 9 under with three holes to play, the best score among those who did not finish.

Former U.S. Women's Open champion Na Yeon Choi, who has struggled with back injuries for the past four years, was 6 under after a 64. She tied for third in her previous tournament, the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational, her best finish



South Korea's Mi Jung Hur lines up her putt at the 14th hole during day two of the Ladies Golf Scottish Open at the Renaissance Club, in North Berwick, Britain, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Associated Press

since 2016. Laura Davies matched the best round of the morning wave with a 68. The 55-year-old Hall of Famer aced the 152-yard fifth hole, her 12th career

hole-in-one.

"Lovely wedge, never left the pin," Davies said. "It seemed to roll for ages and just dropped in."

Only two of the 78 play-

ers with morning tee times broke 70.

"It's probably the second-best round I've probably ever shot because obviously needed to have a good round to make the cut," said Davies, who opened with a 72 and was 2 under. "I had a 6-under 66 in Canada years ago in similar conditions, but that's as close as I can get to it. It was horrific out there. ... I hit two 1-irons into the fourth, 1-iron off the tee and 1-iron into the green. I've never done that before."

It was Davies' first made cut in 11 LPGA Tour starts this year. She has been working part-time as a TV commentator and joined the Sky Sports broadcast booth after her round on Friday. □



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Woods withdraws from Northern Trust, citing oblique strain

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
 AP Golf Writer

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — Masters champion Tiger Woods withdrew Friday from the opening FedEx Cup playoffs event with what he described as a mild oblique strain.

It was the first time Woods has pulled out in the middle of a tournament since the Dubai Desert Classic in February 2017, two months before he had a fourth surgery on his back to fuse his lower spine.

"Due to a mild oblique strain that led to pain and stiffness, I have to withdraw from The Northern Trust," Woods said in a statement released by the PGA Tour. "I went for treatment early Friday morning, but unfortunately I'm still unable to compete."

Woods, playing in only his second tournament since the U.S. Open in June, opened with a 4-over 75 on a Liberty National course so soft that only one other



Tiger Woods tees off on the 12th hole at the Northern Trust golf tournament at Liberty National Golf Course, Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, in Jersey City, N.J.

player had a higher score. It was his second-worst score in 89 rounds in the FedEx Cup playoffs.

He has said all year that there are days when his back doesn't feel as limber. In March, he decided not to play the Arnold Palmer

Invitational on the road to the Masters because of lingering soreness in his neck. At the PGA Championship, he played only nine holes of practice in cold weather at Bethpage Black, where he missed the cut.

Woods stopped hitting full

shots on the back nine of his pro-am Wednesday at Liberty National. After his opening round, he said his back was "a little stiff, but that's just the way it's going to be."

He said he is hopeful to play next week in the BMW

Championship at Medinah, where he won two of his PGA Championship titles.

If he plays, Woods likely would need to move back into the top 30 in the FedEx Cup to advance to the Tour Championship, where he is the defending champion. It was last year at East Lake that he capped off his comeback from four back surgeries with his first victory in five years.

That comeback included a busy schedule to get back among the elite in the game.

Woods had played only 17 official tournaments after his first back surgery in April 2014, and the fusion surgery was as much about quality of life as golf. His tie for sixth in the British Open last year got him back into the top 50 in the world and made him eligible for a World Golf Championship. His runner-up finish in the PGA Championship assured he could play all four FedEx Cup playoff events. □

Kyler Murray makes debut as Cards top Chargers

By The Associated Press

Arizona Cardinals rookie quarterback Kyler Murray went 6 for 7 for 44 yards in the 10 plays of the Cardinals' first offensive series of the game.

Then he put on a headset, took off his pads and watched the Cardinals' 17-13 win over the Los Angeles Chargers in the preseason opener for both teams Thursday night.

The 2018 Heisman Trophy winner, starting his first NFL drive at the Cardinals 2 after a fumble recovery, picked up three first downs, with his longest completion a 14-yard short pass to running back David Johnson.

The Cardinals did, however. Trent Sherfield, who had 19 catches a season ago after making the team as an undrafted free agent, hauled in a 22-yard touchdown pass from backup quarterback Brett Hundley 35 seconds before halftime to tie the score at 7. Hundley was 10 of 14 for 104 yards.

Zane Gonzalez hit a 55-yard field goal and Wes Hills ran 7 yards for a touchdown in the second half, and the Cardinals held on in new head coach Kliff Kingsbury's NFL debut. Easton Stick, the third quarterback for the Chargers, scored on a 31-yard scamper in the fourth quarter.

Patriots 31, Lions 3



Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kyler Murray (1) tries to elude Los Angeles Chargers linebacker Chris Peace (40) during the first half of an NFL preseason football game, Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, in Glendale, Ariz.

DETROIT (AP) — Jakobi Meyers caught two touchdown passes in an impressive preseason debut, and New England drubbed Detroit.

Tom Brady and Matthew Stafford didn't play, and plenty of other key players were also spectators. Myers stood out for New England. The undrafted rookie caught scoring passes from Brian Hoyer and Jarrett Stidham in the second quarter. He finished with six catches for 69 yards.

Super Bowl MVP Julian Edelman (thumb) has been

sidelined for the Patriots, and Phillip Dorsett is the only other returning receiver. Meyers seems to be taking advantage of his opportunity.

Lions receiver Jermaine Kearse was carted off injured early in the first quarter, and that was the start of a dismal night for Detroit. The Lions didn't cross midfield until the latter half of the fourth quarter, when they finally drove for a field goal. The Patriots sacked Detroit quarterbacks nine times.

The Lions finished the third quarter with only 41 net

yards — and minus-11 passing.

Lions coach Matt Patricia has been moving around on a vehicle at practice while recovering from surgery on his left leg. He did coach this game from the sideline, perched behind a handful of coolers near midfield, a safe distance from the field.

Ravens 29, Jaguars 0

BALTIMORE (AP) — Lamar Jackson directed two scoring drives in three possessions and the Baltimore Ravens' defense throttled Jacksonville backup quar-

terback Gardner Minshew. The Jaguars played without quarterback Nick Foles, the 2018 Super Bowl MVP who was signed as a free agent in March. Foles was one of 32 players who were either injured or rested by coach Doug Marrone in the preseason opener, which came after the teams held two joint practices earlier in the week.

Jackson played the first quarter and went 4 for 6 for 59 yards and a touchdown. With Foles on the sideline, Minshew, drafted in the sixth round out of Washington State, proved to be fodder for a defense that last year was ranked No. 1. Minshew lost his helmet when struck on a first-quarter foray out of the pocket, and in the second quarter he got hit a whole lot harder after mishandling a snap. Minshew quickly picked up the ball, just an instant before Kenny Young swooped in untouched and applied a crushing tackle that separated the quarterback from his helmet — again.

Minshew was mercifully lifted after going 7 for 14 for 46 yards.

In other preseason games it was Bills 24, Colts 16; Browns 30, Redskins 10; Titans 27, Eagles 10; Dolphins 34, Falcons 27; Giants 31, Jets 22; Seahawks 22, Broncos 14; Panthers 23, Bears 13; and Packers 28, Texans 26. □

Lawyer suing league relieves Saints from subpoena

By KEVIN MCGILL

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A Louisiana lawyer suing the NFL over the failure to call a crucial penalty in a January playoff game said Friday he won't force the New Orleans Saints to comply with a subpoena for records regarding the game. Antonio LeMon released a letter to team officials saying he and three fellow ticket-holders suing the NFL don't want the subpoena to distract the Saints organization from the upcoming football season.

"To be clear, plaintiffs do not want to do anything or require absolutely anything of the Saints at this time that

may have any negative impact and detract from the focus of the Saints in having its most successful season," the letter says.

LeMon's lawsuit against the league alleges fraud and seeks damages in connection with the failure to flag a blatant penalty by a Los Angeles Rams player who made a helmet-to-helmet hit on a Saints receiver with a pass on the way. The lack of a penalty call for pass interference or roughness helped the Rams beat the Saints and advance to the Super Bowl.

The league has asked Louisiana's Supreme Court to halt the suit, which could result in NFL Commissioner

Roger Goodell being questioned under oath in September.

The team, despite having been burned by the infamous "Nola no-call," has joined the league in opposing the lawsuit. Team lawyers filed a brief with the Supreme Court late Wednesday, supporting the league's effort to halt the suit. The letter also said complying with LeMon's subpoena — which sought, among other things a database of ticket-holders and any records regarding the disputed play — would be expensive and time consuming for the organization as the team prepares for the 2019 season. □



In this Jan. 20, 2019, file photo, Los Angeles Rams' Nickell Robey-Coleman breaks up a pass intended for New Orleans Saints' Tommylee Lewis during the second half of the NFL football NFC championship game in New Orleans.

Associated Press

Urshela HRs twice, streaking Yanks outslug Bichette, Jays

By The Associated Press
TORONTO (AP) — Gio Urshela hit two home runs for the second straight game and the New York Yankees outslugged rookie Bo Bichette and the Toronto Blue Jays 12-6 Thursday night to extend their winning streak to a season-best nine games. Playing in Toronto for the first time, Bichette became the first player in major league history to double in nine consecutive games. He also homered, giving him an unprecedented 13 extra-base hits in his first 11 career games. Bichette is the first rookie to have an extra-base hit in nine straight games since Ted Williams in 1939, according to STATS.

The Yankees have hit a record 19 homers over their last four games, including at least five in each win during a three-game sweep at Baltimore this week. Mike Tauchman also homered Thursday to give New York three connections. Domingo Germán (15-2) pitched five innings to win his sixth consecutive decision for New York. Both of Urshela's homers came off left-hander Thomas Pannone (2-5), who matched a career worst by giving up seven runs in 2 1/3 innings.

Luis Cessa pitched the final three innings for his first save.

RED SOX 3, ANGELS 0
BOSTON (AP) — Chris Sale righted himself and struck out 13 over eight innings of two-hit ball, Sam Travis hit a two-run homer and Boston beat Los Angeles. Sale (6-11) had allowed 14 runs over nine innings during his previous two starts, both against the rival New York Yankees. He carved up the Angels in his 13th outing with double-digit strikeouts this season. The Red Sox had lost nine of 10 games, not including Wednesday's contest against the Royals that was suspended in the 10th inning with the score tied at 4. Thursday's game ran without issue and was over in a tidy 2 hours, 16 minutes. Brandon Workman worked a clean ninth with two strikeouts for his seventh save.

Dillon Peters (2-1) gave up three runs and five hits and struck out eight over six innings.

INDIANS 7, TWINS 5
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Jose Ramirez drove in three runs, Mike Clevinger kept Minnesota quiet with nine strikeouts in seven innings, and Cleveland struck first in this four-game series between the AL Central front-runners



New York Yankees' Gio Urshela, right, celebrates with teammate Didi Gregorius after hitting his second two-run home run of the night, against the Toronto Blue Jays during the third inning of a baseball game Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, in Toronto.

to pull within a game of the Twins.

Indians closer Brad Hand ended the game by retiring Eddie Rosario on a routine flyout with the bases loaded, recording his 29th save in dramatic fashion.

RBI singles in the fourth by Luis Arraez and Marwin Gonzalez accounted for two of the three hits managed by the Twins against Clevinger (7-2), who watched four relievers toil

through a three-run eighth inning that cut Cleveland's lead to 6-5.

The Twins lost leading home run hitter Nelson Cruz to a strained left wrist, after he swung and missed at a pitch from Clevinger in the fourth. Kyle Gibson (11-5) got them off to an ominous start, giving up six runs in less than five innings behind a career-high six walks.

TIGERS 10, ROYALS 8
DETROIT (AP) — Jordy Mer-

cer hit a walk-off, two-run homer against Richard Lovelady (0-2) in the ninth inning to lift Detroit over Kansas City.

Travis Demeritte led off the ninth with his third walk of the game and moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Jake Rogers. Mercer then hit a 2-1 fastball into the right field stands.

Joe Jimenez (3-6) got the win with a scoreless ninth inning. □

Associated Press

Orioles' Davis clears air with manager after dugout clash

By DAVID GINSBURG
AP Sports Writer
BALTIMORE (AP) — Orioles first baseman Chris Davis said he reached a "breaking point" when he charged at manager Brandon Hyde in the dugout on Wednesday night, and expressed his regret during a lengthy conversation with Hyde on Friday. The flare-up occurred Wednesday in the fifth inning of Baltimore's 14-2 loss to the New York Yankees. Hyde walked over to Davis and said something that the first baseman clearly didn't like, and Davis attempted to charge at the manager before being restrained by teammate

Mark Trumbo and hitting coach Don Long.

"It happened. Brandon and I have talked," Davis said Friday, hours before the last-place Orioles hosted the Houston Astros. "I knew right after it happened we were going to be fine, and we are."

Davis is batting .182 with nine homers and 31 RBIs, hardly the production the Orioles expected from a slugger who's in the middle of a \$161 million, seven-year contract. Last season he batted .168, the worst average in major league history by a player with enough plate appearances to qualify for the batting title.



Baltimore Orioles' Chris Davis heads back to the dugout after flying out during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays, Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

Davis has taken some consolation from his play in the field, but on Wednesday night he lamented being

unable to snag a bouncing throw that preceded a New York home run.

"For me, that was really

kind of the breaking point," Davis said. "It all boiled over. It wasn't just from that play. For me, it's been the last couple weeks."

"I think it just made it worse for everybody involved," Davis said. "I wish it hadn't happened in the dugout, but it did. We addressed it. We're moving forward. We have so much to look forward to; I don't want this to be made into something it's not."

Davis was removed for a pinch hitter in the fifth inning and said he remained in the clubhouse until the game ended before leaving the stadium "just to be respectful" to his teammates. □

Rizzo celebrates, Cubs beat Reds 12-5 for biggest lead

By The Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — Anthony Rizzo had a pair of hits as part of a 30th birthday celebration, Nicholas Castellanos added to his Chicago surge with a pair of homers and the Cubs beat Cincinnati for their biggest NL Central lead of the season.

The Cubs' sixth win in seven games gave them a 3½-game margin over the idle Brewers. Left-hander Cole Hamels struggled, but Tyler Chatwood (5-1) fanned six in three innings as Chicago pulled away.

Reds manager David Bell returned from a six-game suspension for going after Pirates manager Clint Hurdle during a benches-clearing brawl last week at Great American Ball Park.

Castellanos had a pair of solo homers among his three hits, the latter breaking a 5-5 tie off Kevin Gausman (3-8) in the fourth inning. He's hit safely in all eight games since the Cubs got him from Detroit.

Aristides Aquino hit a two-run homer for Cincinnati measured at 118.3 mph, tying the Yankees' Gary Sanchez and Mets' Pete Alonso for the hardest-hit homers this season.



Chicago Cubs' Nicholas Castellanos (6) celebrates with Anthony Rizzo, right, after hitting a solo home run off Cincinnati Reds starting pitcher Alex Wood during the third inning of a baseball game Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, in Cincinnati.

PADRES 9, ROCKIES 3

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Rookie Fernando Tatis Jr. hit his second leadoff home run in two games — and team-record sixth this season — and San Diego scored five unearned runs in the sixth inning to beat Colorado.

Tatis broke the old record of five leadoff homers by Will Venable in 2011 when he drove a 1-0 pitch from Jon Gray (10-8) into the home run porch in the right

field corner. It was the 22nd of the season for Tatis, who hit a leadoff homer in a 3-2 loss at Seattle on Wednesday.

Manuel Margot homered in the eighth for the Padres, his ninth. The Padres led 3-1 after two before the Rockies tied it on Trevor Story's RBI double in the third and Charlie Blackmon's leadoff homer in the fifth, his 24th.

Matt Strahm (5-8) pitched two innings for the win.

Associated Press

GIANTS 5, PHILLIES 0

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Madison Bumgarner carried a no-hit bid into the sixth inning and won his fourth straight decision, pitching San Francisco past Philadelphia to snap a four-game losing streak.

Pinch-hitter Cesar Hernandez hit a sharp single up the middle with one out in the sixth to break it up. Before that, the only Phillies baserunner came when Rhys

Hoskins drew a one-out walk in the fourth.

Mike Yastrzemski hit a solo homer and drove in three runs to get the offense going after San Francisco scored just four total runs the previous three days in being swept by the Nationals.

The Giants delivered four straight hits against Aaron Nola (10-3) to start the third and back Bumgarner (7-7), capped by Yastrzemski's two-run double before he got caught in a rundown trying to stretch it to a triple. San Francisco left the bases loaded in the fourth.

MARLINS 9, BRAVES 2

MIAMI (AP) — Brian Anderson homered twice, Elieser Hernandez (2-4) pitched six shutout innings and Miami beat Atlanta on a rough night for Dallas Keuchel.

Hernandez retired 11 consecutive batters before Ronald Acuña Jr.'s leadoff single in the sixth.

The Marlins chased Keuchel (3-5) with a five-run fourth capped by Anderson's second home run and 20th of the season for an 8-0 lead. Keuchel allowed eight runs and 10 hits in 3 2/3 innings, his shortest outing since joining the Braves on June 10. □

Twins DH Nelson Cruz goes on IL with ruptured wrist tendon



Minnesota Twins' Nelson Cruz watches his two-run home run off Kansas City Royals pitcher Glenn Sparkman during the first inning of a baseball game Friday, Aug. 2, 2019, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

By BRIAN HALL

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Minnesota Twins designated hitter Nelson Cruz was placed on the 10-day injured list Friday because of a ruptured tendon in his left wrist, but the team is optimistic about his eventual return.

Cruz was injured on a swing Thursday night in a 7-5 loss to Cleveland that cut Minnesota's American League Central lead to a single game.

Tests revealed a rupture of the extensor carpi ulnaris tendon, but Cruz reported feeling no pain in the wrist when he arrived at Target Field on Friday.

"I can grab the bat," Cruz said.

"It feels good.

Monday, I'm going to go

to New York and see a specialist.

We've got to go from there. But it looks as if it'll be good in 10 days."

Cruz has been a major piece in the Twins' resurgence this season, hitting .294 with 32 home runs and 76 RBIs while being a steadying influence on the team's younger players. He leads the majors with 16 home runs since the All-Star break.

It turns out, the team got a bit of good news about the injury from a former player. Justin Morneau, the former MVP first baseman and currently a team broadcaster, said he had the injury in 2012 and played the rest of the season.

"To be fair to everyone, everyone deals with it differently, though," manager

Rocco Baldelli said.

"There are some people, when it ruptures, that's not a good scenario at all.

And there are some people, so I've heard, like that — like (Morneau) — who have dealt with it and it actually felt somewhat better or a lot better."

Morneau said the rupture actually relieved pain.

He said he played the rest of his career without surgery on the tendon.

A long absence was feared after Thursday's game, but Cruz said he even took swings on Friday.

"The way it feels today is really good," Cruz said.

"It's a miracle that it feels like that."

Minnesota recalled right-handed reliever Cody Stashak from Triple-A Rochester. □

Natasha Howard had 23 points, 11 rebounds in Storm's victory

By The Associated Press
EVERETT, Wash. (AP) — Natasha Howard had 23 points, 11 rebounds and six steals, Jordin Canada added a career-high 18 points and six assists and the Seattle Storm beat the Dallas Wings 69-57 on Thursday night. Howard scored 13 of Seattle opening 20 points, and finished the half with 15 as the Storm trailed 38-37. Seattle was just 2 of 10 from 3-point range before half-time and ended the game 3 for 19. Alysha Clark added 12 points and eight rebounds to help Seattle (13-11) snap a three-game skid. Kayla Thornton led Dallas (6-17) with 14 points. Arike Ogunbowale added 13, Isabelle Harrison 12 and Allisha Gray 11. Glory Johnson, the fifth starter, was just 1 of 10 from the field for three points. Dallas' 0-11 road record is the franchise's worst start since losing 13 straight in 2011, while based in Tulsa.
SPARKS 84, MERCURY 74

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Nneka Ogumike scored 24 points, Candace Parker added 12 points, 11 rebounds and six assists and Los Angeles beat Phoenix for its fourth straight victory. Chelsea Gray chipped in with 10 points and five assists for Los Angeles (14-8). Brittney Griner scored 27 points, and Leilani Mitchell added 19 for Phoenix (11-11).
MYSTICS 91, FEVER 78
WASHINGTON (AP) — Elena Delle Donne had 22 points and eight rebounds, and Kristi Toliver added a career-high 11 assists in Washington's victory over Indiana. Emma Meesseman scored 19 points, LaToya Sanders added 16, Aerial Powers 14 and Natasha Cloud 13 for Washington (16-7). Toliver was held scoreless on six shot attempts. The Mystics have won seven of their last eight games for the second best record in the WNBA. Kelsey Mitchell scored 13 of her 18 points in the first half for Indiana (8-16). □

Joshua-Ruiz rematch set for Dec. 7 in Saudi Arabia

LONDON (AP) — Anthony Joshua's promoters say his world heavyweight title rematch against Andy Ruiz Jr. will take place in Diriyah, Saudi Arabia, on Dec. 7. The British fighter will be trying to win back the IBF, WBA and WBO belts he lost to Ruiz at New York's Madison Square Garden on June 1. Ruiz, an American, had insisted that the rematch take place back in the U.S. or at a neutral venue.

Diriyah is a town on the outskirts of Riyadh, the Saudi Arabian capital. Their rematch will be the highest-profile boxing event to be held in the country after welterweight Amir Khan's win over Australia's Billy Dib in Jeddah on July 12. Saudi Arabia also hosted the World Boxing Super Series super middleweight final between British fighters Callum Smith and George Groves last year. □



Serena Williams, of the United States, reaches for a shot from Naomi Osaka, of Japan, during the Rogers Cup women's tennis tournament Friday, Aug. 9, 2019, in Toronto.

Associated Press

Serena Williams advances to Rogers Cup semifinals

TORONTO (AP) — Serena Williams advanced to the Rogers Cup semifinals Friday night, beating soon-to-be-top-ranked Naomi Osaka of Japan 6-3, 6-4 at breezy at York University. Playing her first event since losing the Wimbledon final, Williams will face the winner of the late match between fourth-seeded Simona Halep of Romania and Czech qualifier Marie Bouzkova. The 37-year-old Williams, ranked 10th and seeded eighth, won the event in 2001, 2011 and 2013 — all in Toronto — and has a tournament-record 33 victories in 37 matches. She won the last of her 72 singles titles in the 2017 Australian Open. Osaka will go from No. 2 to No. 1 on Monday when the

new ranking is announced. She played Williams for the first time since beating her last year in the U.S. Open final.

In the afternoon, Bianca Andreescu became the first Canadian Rogers Cup semifinalist since 1979, overcoming a groin injury to beat third-seeded Karolina Pliskova of Czech Republic 6-0, 2-6, 6-4. Andreescu will face American Sofia Kenin, a 7-6 (2), 6-4 winner over sixth-seeded Elina Svitolina of Ukraine.

The 19-year-old Andreescu, from nearby Mississauga, is returning from a right shoulder injury that sidelined her since the French Open in May. She won in Indian Wells in March for her first WTA Tour title.

"In the third set I told myself, 'Go big or go home,'" Andreescu said. "Literally go home. My home is like two minutes from here. I just went out there and I never gave up because it's not over until it's over."

Andreescu played her fourth consecutive three-set match. She needed a medical timeout in the second set for treatment of the groin injury. "It's not easy, that's for sure," Andreescu said. "Right now, I'm just really happy my mind and my body are holding up. My team, too, I'm so sorry guys for putting you through all of that."

The 20-year-old Kenin upset top-ranked Ashleigh Barty in the first round. □

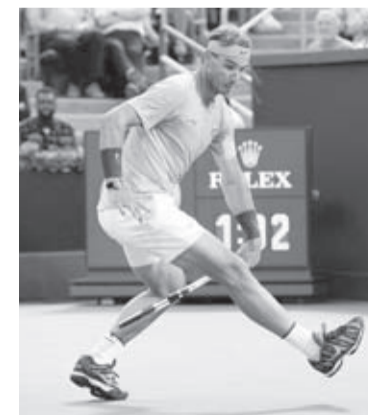
Top-seeded Rafael Nadal rallies to reach Rogers Cup semis

MONTREAL (AP) — Top-seeded Rafael Nadal rallied to reach the Rogers Cup semifinals Friday night, beating No. 7 Fabio Fognini of Italy 2-6, 6-1, 6-2. The winner last year in Toronto for his fourth title in the event, Nadal won his 380th ATP Masters 1000 match, a day after breaking a tie with Roger Federer for the tour record. Nadal has 82 singles victories, win-

ning the French Open in June for his second title of the year.

In the semifinals, the 33-year-old Spanish star will face the winner of the late match between No. 10 Roberto Bautista Agut of Spain and No. 16 Gael Monfils of France.

In the afternoon, Daniil Medvedev and Karen Khachanov set up an all-Russian semifinal. □



Rafael Nadal, of Spain, hits the ball between his legs to return to Fabio Fognini, of Italy, during the Rogers Cup men's tennis tournament Friday, Aug. 9, 2019, in Montreal.

Associated Press

Huawei unveils phone system that could replace Android

By **JOE McDONALD**
AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Huawei on Friday unveiled a smartphone operating system that it said can replace Google's Android, adding to the Chinese tech giant's efforts to insulate itself against U.S. sanctions.

The announcement of HarmonyOS highlights the growing ability of Huawei, the No. 2 global smartphone brand and biggest maker of network gear for phone carriers, to create technology and reduce its reliance on American vendors.

U.S. curbs imposed in May threatened Huawei's smartphone sales by limiting access to Android and blocking Google, a unit of Alphabet Inc., from supporting music and other services based on the system.

Huawei Technologies Ltd. wants to keep using Android, Richard Yu, CEO of its consumer device unit, said at a conference for software developers in the southern city of Dongguan. "However, if we cannot use it in the future we can immediately switch to HarmonyOS," Yu said. He said that could be done in as little as two days if needed.



In this image from video released by Huawei, Richard Yu, CEO of Huawei Consumer Business Group, speaks during a news conference in Dongguan, China, Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Huawei, China's first global tech brand, is at the center of a battle between Washington and Beijing over the ruling Communist Party's ambitions to develop companies that can compete in robotics and other fields. The Trump administration says Beijing's efforts are based on stealing or pressuring companies to hand over technology. Washington and other trading partners say the Chinese campaign violates its free-trade obligations.

Washington has labeled

Huawei a security threat, an accusation the company denies. Some officials also see the rise of Huawei and other Chinese tech competitors as a potential threat to U.S. industrial leadership.

Huawei spends about \$12 billion a year on U.S. semiconductor chips and other components. The company said the U.S. export curbs might cut its projected sales by \$30 billion over two years.

Since then, authorities have said vendors will be allowed

to supply technology that is available from other sources. That came after American technology suppliers warned they would be hurt by the loss of one of their biggest customers.

Huawei also has developed its own chipsets for low-end smartphones and servers, though it still needs U.S. vendors for its most advanced products.

Yu said Huawei's first device using HarmonyOS would be released Saturday under its Honor brand.

Huawei, headquartered in

the southern city of Shenzhen, near Hong Kong, reported earlier its smartphone shipments rose 24% in the first half of 2019 over a year ago to 118 million.

"We could have done better, but due to the challenges we face in the international market, our shipments dropped a bit," Yu said.

Huawei reported that sales in the six months through June rose 23.2% over a year earlier to 401.3 billion yuan (\$58.3 billion). That was up from 2018 growth of 19.5%, but Chairman Liang Hua warned Huawei will "face difficulties" in the second half.

Liang said then that Huawei was reviewing its product lineup to make sure it could fill orders without U.S. components if necessary.

On Friday, Yu said HarmonyOS is designed to operate on PCs and tablet computers as well as smartphones, allowing users to integrate music and other functions across multiple devices.

HarmonyOS will be open source to allow outside developers to contribute to its development, Yu said.

"We want to build a global operating system, so it will not be used by Huawei alone," he said. □

Associated Press

Walmart pulls violent game displays but will still sell guns

By **MICHELLE CHAPMAN, MAE ANDERSON and JOSEPH PISANI**

AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Walmart has ordered workers to remove video game signs and displays that depict violence from stores nationwide after 22 people died in a shooting at one of its Texas stores, but the big box retailer will continue to sell guns.

In an internal memo, the retailer told employees to remove any violent marketing material, unplug Xbox and PlayStation consoles that show violent video games and turn off any violence depicted on screens in its electronics departments.

Employees also were asked to shut off hunting

season videos in the sporting goods department where guns are sold.

"Remove from the sales floor or turn off these items immediately," the memo said.

Walmart will still sell the violent video games and hasn't made any changes to its gun sales policy, despite pressure from workers, politicians and activists to do so.

"We've taken this action out of respect for the incidents of the past week," Walmart spokeswoman Tara House said in an email. She declined to answer any questions beyond the statement.

Detractors panned the move as an empty gesture aimed at deflecting criticism rather than solv-

ing a problem.

"That is a non-answer and a non-solution," said Thomas Marshall, who works at Walmart's e-commerce division in San Bruno, California, and has helped organize a petition to get the company to stop selling guns. He said they plan to email the petition, which has more than 53,000 signatures, to Walmart CEO Doug McMillon on Friday.

After the massacre at the El Paso Walmart this weekend, McMillon said the company "will be thoughtful and deliberate in our responses."

After the mass shooting at a Parkland, Florida, high school last year, Walmart Inc. banned sales of firearms and ammuni-



In this Dec. 15, 2010 file photo, a view of the entertainment section of a Wal-Mart store is seen in Alexandria, Va.

Associated Press

tion to people younger than 21.

It had stopped selling AR-15s and other semi-automatic weapons in 2015, citing weak sales.

President Donald Trump blamed "gruesome and grisly video games" for en-

couraging violence Monday, but there is no known link between violent video games and violent acts.

The El Paso massacre was followed by another shooting hours later in Dayton, Ohio, that killed nine people. □

Stocks stumble on trade-war worries, capping wild week

By **STAN CHOE**
DAMIAN J. TROISE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks stumbled on Wall Street Friday, veering between modest and sharp losses, as worries flashed yet again about President Donald Trump's trade war with China. The declines bookend a wild week where markets zoomed down, up and down again as investors struggled to make sense of a trade dispute whose resolution suddenly seems much more uncertain.

The S&P 500 sank as much as 1.3% Friday afternoon after Trump said that it would be "fine" if a meeting on trade with China next month doesn't happen, before eliminating most of the loss. Treasury yields jostled up and down, while the price of crude oil clawed back some of its sharp losses from earlier in the week. Gold, which jumped earlier in the week as investors rushed for things seen as safe, was steady.

To anyone not paying attention, the numbers could paint the last week as a ho-hum one for markets: The S&P 500 is down just 0.1%. But that stretch included the worst plunge of the year for the S&P 500, as well as its best day in months. Through the week, investors' mood pinballed from fear that China was raising the stakes in the trade war by weakening its currency to relief that the yuan's



In this Aug. 6, 2019, file photo trader Tommy Kalikas works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

drop wasn't more sharp and back to concern that the U.S. and China may not even meet next month to talk about their problems. All of that was a follow-up to Trump's threat last week to impose more tariffs on Chinese goods.

Underscoring the uncertainty, investors said they had no good explanations for some of the sharp swings in price that stocks had over the last week.

Even after all the tumult, the S&P 500 is only 1.7% below its record, which was set at the end of July. It's also up about 9% since Trump said in March 2018 that "trade wars are good, and easy to

win."

The economy is still growing, and the unemployment rate remains near its lowest level in half a century. The fear is that all the uncertainty that has been causing stock prices to swing sharply could also make businesses and shoppers more cautious. If they pull back on their spending, it could lead to weaker profits for companies, which could cause businesses to cut back on hiring, which could do real damage to the economy.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index was down 0.3%, as of 3:10 p.m. Eastern time. The Dow Jones Industrial

Associated Press

Average was up 31 points, or 0.1%, at 26,409 after earlier falling as many as 280 points. The Nasdaq composite fell 0.6%.

YIELDS: Some of the week's most furious action has been in the bond market, where yields have tumbled as investors scrambled to get out of the way of the seemingly worsening trade war. When bond prices rise, their yields fall, and the yield on the 10-year Treasury sat at 1.73% Friday afternoon, down from 1.85% a week ago. It edged up from 1.71% late Thursday and had been below 1.60% in the middle of the week.

OVERSEAS: European in-

dexes fell broadly. The British government reported that its economy shrank in the second quarter for the first time since 2012. Germany reported that exports fell in June.

Germany's DAX lost 1.3%, the FTSE 100 in London slipped 0.4% and the CAC 40 in France dropped 1.1%. In Asia, the Hang Seng in Hong Kong fell 0.7%, Japan's Nikkei 225 rose 0.4% and South Korea's KOSPI gained 0.4%.

UBER'S ROUGH RIDE: Uber fell 6.2% after losing more money during the second quarter than Wall Street had expected. The company reported its largest quarterly loss on record in the same period it went public and made huge stock-based payouts. The company spent heavily on sales and marketing, including costly promotions designed to attract riders and drivers. The cost of price wars and retaining drivers while competing with rivals such as Lyft has been a strain on its ability to turn a profit.

BAD BATCH: Nektar Therapeutics plunged 30.6% after the company revealed that a cancer treatment study was impacted by bad batches of an experimental drug. The company has since refined the manufacturing process for the drug candidate, which is involved in multiple cancer treatment studies with partner Bristol-Myers Squibb. □

German exports a bit lower in June, add to economic clouds

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — German exports were a little lower in June than the previous month and dropped 8% in year-on-year terms, reinforcing expectations that data due next week may show Europe's biggest economy shrank slightly in the second quarter.

The Federal Statistical Office said Friday that exports were 0.1% lower than in May in seasonally adjusted terms, following a steep 3.2% drop in April and a partial 1.3% recovery in May. Imports rose

0.5% on the month. The monthly export and import data were both in line with economists' expectations. Second-quarter gross domestic product figures are due Aug. 14. Germany's economy is believed to have turned in a feeble performance in the April-June period after returning to growth in the winter, a forecast bolstered by recent data. Economists at UniCredit bank predict a 0.1% decline in GDP compared with the previous quarter.

Foreign trade is tradition-

ally a mainstay of the German economy, although domestic demand has played an increasing role in recent years. German exports face uncertainty caused by deepening tensions between the U.S. and China, ongoing issues between the U.S. and Europe and the prospect of Britain's exit from the European Union in the fall.

Over the first half of the year, German exports — which totaled 666.1 billion euros (\$746.2 billion) — were 0.5% higher than a year earlier. □



In this Thursday, May 16, 2019, file photo, cars for export and import are stored in front of containers at the port in Bremerhaven, Germany.

Associated Press

Mutts



6 Chix



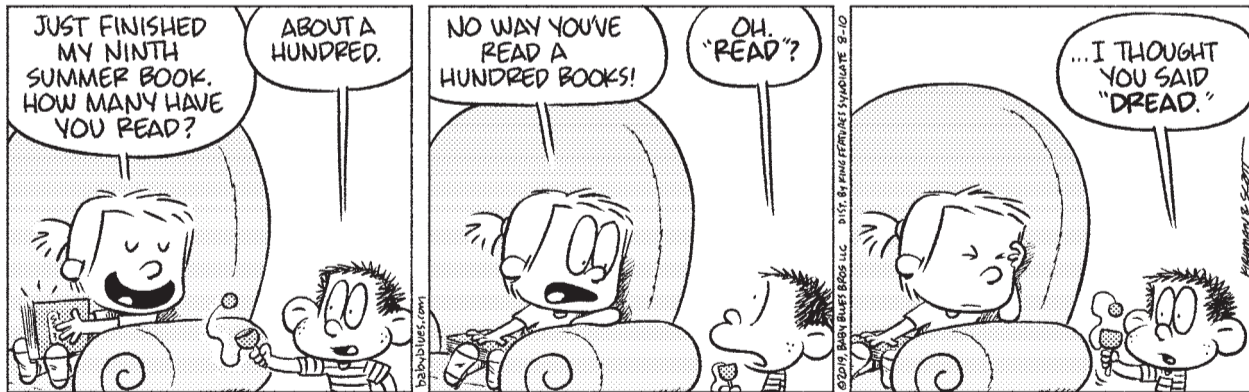
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| | 7 | | | | | | 2 | |
| 3 | 6 | | | 1 | | | 4 | 9 |
| | | | 7 | 9 | | | | |
| | | 1 | | | | 6 | | |
| | 5 | | | 2 | | | 1 | |
| | | 9 | | | | 3 | | |
| | | | 4 | 2 | | | | |
| 7 | 2 | | | 6 | | | 8 | 3 |
| | 1 | | | | | | 5 | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 8/10

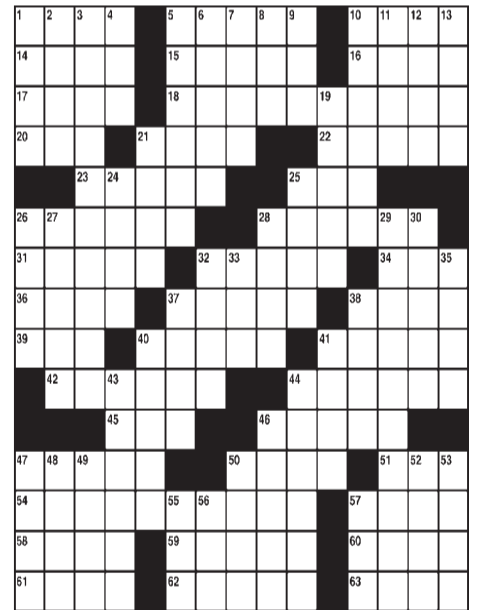
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 7 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| 3 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

ACROSS

- 1 Gopher Mickelson
- 5 Partners
- 10 Mont Blanc's location
- 14 Watermelon casing
- 15 Martini garnish
- 16 "As ye sow, so shall ye ..."
- 17 Probability
- 18 Behead
- 20 Charge for services
- 21 Franklin & Savage
- 22 Exhausted
- 23 Picture border
- 25 Ethane or xenon
- 26 Tommy Moe & Picabo Street
- 28 ___ rage; very popular
- 31 Oakley or Potts
- 32 Oliver's lunch
- 34 St. Joan of ___
- 36 Blood vessel
- 37 Serpent
- 38 Larch or laurel
- 39 Break a fast
- 40 Courageous acts
- 41 Compel
- 42 Go away
- 44 Sends in payment
- 45 Tease
- 46 Kraków natives
- 47 Monastery superior
- 50 Insignia
- 51 UK network
- 54 Leaping insect
- 57 Wahine's dance
- 58 Indian garb
- 59 "___ It to Beaver"
- 60 Common metal
- 61 Evict
- 62 Passé
- 63 Items sold by the dozen



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 8/10/19

Friday's Puzzle Solved

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------|
| CHEW | SHOW | BLOB |
| HEXES | TECH | LAVA |
| ORATE | ANTIDOTES | |
| PEG | NAG | PETERS |
| GLADE | PAT | |
| GREETS | PILOTS | |
| EERIE | SAINT | UPS |
| TEAS | SWING | TRIO |
| AFT | CHALK | SOBER |
| SECRET | SPOUSE | |
| HAL | SKILL | |
| ELDEST | TIC | END |
| COUNSELOR | ERNIE | |
| HALE | ROLE | SACKS |
| ONLY | SLEW | MEEK |

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DOWN

- 1 Univ. teacher
- 2 Keep out of sight
- 3 Not precise; vague
- 4 Joseph Smith's religion; abbr.
- 25 Joy
- 26 Rescue
- 27 Bread recipe verb
- 28 Razorbill birds
- 29 U.S. state capital
- 30 Build
- 32 Pesky insect
- 33 Fink
- 35 Mediocre grades

- 5 Internet-access devices
- 6 Coeur d'_, Idaho
- 7 Tourette syndrome symptoms
- 8 Zsa Zsa's sis
- 9 Next month; abbr.
- 10 Painter
- 11 TV producer Norman
- 12 Cracker spread
- 13 Zoomed away
- 19 Know-___; smart aleck
- 21 Uncovered
- 24 ___ in; bring under control
- 37 Many a Kosovo resident
- 38 Heavy book
- 40 Have ___ in; trust
- 41 Tumbled
- 43 Financial gain
- 44 Howled with glee
- 46 Irritate
- 47 Too
- 48 Actor Bridges
- 49 Saloons
- 50 Dispute
- 52 Modern diary
- 53 Pantry stackables
- 55 Ancient
- 56 Shell game need
- 57 Hurry

'Plant influencers' offer decor tips for fall houseplants

By TRACEE M. HERBAUGH
Associated Press

Houseplants are a quick and easy way to dress your home in autumnal color. Anthuriums can add hues of pink, red or white. The philodendron's cascading, heart-shaped green leaves bring a touch of the outdoors inside. And of course, the poinsettia's red and green foliage is a popular choice for holiday décor.

It's no secret — houseplants are back in style.

"They are naturally chaotic and provide great contrast to the structure of a room and its furnishings," says Sarah Cole, a Boston-area interior designer. "They bring life, literally, to a room."

But with so many houseplant varieties, how's a neophyte to choose? If you are new to the crazy, cool world of houseplants, don't fear: Instagram is here to help. On the photo-sharing social media platform, houseplants and their owners have carved a niche under hashtags like #plantsofinstagram and #plantcommunity.

Like their counterparts from the world of pop culture, "plant influencers" garner loyal followings in the hundreds of thousands. Their photos depict beautifully grown, tended and displayed houseplants — on shelves, with cats or filling an entire room. They promise to help you find the most popular, beautiful and in-demand houseplants. Some plant influencers' suggestions for fall:

Ana Carlson @sillappeal
Followers: About 8,900

The Los Angeles-based owner of Sill Appeal, an on-line store for plant décor, says houseplants brighten a home in the throes of winter darkness.

"Plants that bloom in the fall are always a good choice for shorter days," Carlson says, mentioning holiday cacti and African violets as good choices.

"These old-fashioned

plants are making a comeback," she said. "African violets are beautiful, and they can bloom year-round with proper light and care." Another popular fall plant, according to Carlson, is the variegated croton.

"The croton's leaves are colorful, but they need a lot of light to keep their vibrant colors and not drop leaves," she said.

"Without special care and conditions, it can be hard to keep it healthy in most people's homes." One easygoing plant that's becoming more popular in the U.S. is the ZZ Raven. Its new growth is green like the regular ZZ variety, also known as Zanzibar gem, but the raven turns black as it matures. "Black plants can be really cool for Halloween," Carlson said.

Eliza Blank @thesill
Followers: 564,000

People pay more attention to their homes as summer turns to fall, says Blank, owner of the New York City-based houseplant boutique The Sill.

"In preparation to hunker down for the winter ahead, people buy more houseplants," she said. "We see deeper color foliage and patterned foliage trending, along with the darker hues of planters."

Her fall picks include: the philodendron, rubber trees

and the visually interesting alocasia.

Nick Pileggi @Phillyfoliage
Followers: 36,200

Variegated plant varieties are both interesting to look at and wildly popular, says Pileggi, the curator at Urban Jungle, an eclectic houseplant shop in Philadelphia. The pink princess philodendron is probably the most coveted plant right now, he says. But the variegated monstera is close behind. One of these plants might cost up to \$200. Growers haven't yet cultivated them for the mass market. "If you say a plant is rare, people will pay anything for it," Pileggi says. The cissus discolor and a peperomia plant are among his fall picks.

Karin Scholte @botaniquegreen.home
Followers: Around 5,000

This year's fall plant, Scholte says, is the ficus elastica. "The variegated ones bring light and color in a darker period," she says.

She also recommended plants from the codiaeum family: "Their colors are so bright and are the same as the leaves from the trees outside," she said. "And they give me a warm feeling like a blanket, especially when they're bigger and hanging down from a shelf." □



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Scientists say water in Hawaii crater is heated by volcano



This Aug. 4, 2019 photo provided by the U.S. Geological Survey shows pools of water at the bottom of Kilauea volcano's summit crater.

By CALEB JONES HONOLULU (AP) — Scientists have discovered that a growing pond of water inside a Hawaii crater is being heated by Kilauea volcano. The U.S. Geological Survey said Tuesday that temperature readings taken over the weekend show that a growing pool of water in Kilauea volcano's Halemaumau crater, the former home of a popular lava lake, is about 158 degrees Fahrenheit (70 degrees Celsius).

For the first time in recorded history, the presence of water in the crater was confirmed last week. Since then, scientists have found two other small pools of water nearby.

The crater floor collapsed about 2,000 feet (610 meters) and the lava lake disappeared last summer as Kilauea stopped erupting for the first time in over 30 years.

USGS geologist Matt Patrick told The Associated Press on Tuesday that it's hard to determine how deep the magma chamber is

Associated Press beneath the bottom of the crater floor where the water was found.

"I don't think it's possible to really determine too much about how deep the magma is below," Patrick said. "There's always a lot of gas coming through the surface, also a lot of sulfur output so that is kind of heating it and mixing in with the water."

One of the first things researchers hope to do is gather samples of the water so they can determine its composition and possibly better understand what's happening underground.

The bottom of the crater, which has long been the main conduit for Kilauea's erupting lava, is now below the water table, officials said last week.

The area is inaccessible and dangerous because of pooling gases and other hazards, so researchers will likely use a helicopter to lower a bucket into the bottom of the crater to collect water samples, Patrick said.

USGS geologist Janet Babb said observations made

Tuesday show the water level continues to rise and the three ponds are starting to merge into one. A small pond was first spotted on July 25 and the water has continued to rise since.

In certain circumstances, underground magma interacting with groundwater can create explosive eruptions.

USGS researchers say an eruption is not imminent and the public alert level for the volcano has not changed.

Historically, Kilauea has gone through long periods of explosive phases that have lasted hundreds of years. The volcano then goes through phases of slower, so-called effusive eruptive periods. Kilauea has been in an effusive state for about 200 years. Geologists also took video of steam rising from the pond.

USGS set up a webcam to monitor the water inside Halemaumau crater and will continue to make observations and watch for changes. □

El Nino fades so forecasters expect busier hurricane season



This Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019 satellite photo made available by NOAA shows cloud patterns over the Western Hemisphere. **Associated Press**

By SETH BORENSTEIN AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Government meteorologists say this year's hurricane season may be busier than initially expected now that summer's weak El Nino has faded away. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center said Thursday the Atlantic season looks more active than normal as peak hurricane season begins. Forecasters now expect 10 to 17 named storms, with five to

nine hurricanes and two to four major ones.

In May, they forecast a normal season, one or two fewer named storms and hurricanes. Forecaster Gerry Bell says the end of El Nino means more hospitable hurricane conditions. El Nino is the periodic warming of parts of the Pacific that affects weather worldwide and dampens storm activity. Hurricane season is June through November. So far, there have been two named storms, with one hurricane. □

Fukushima nuclear plant out of space for radioactive water

By MARI YAMAGUCHI Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — The utility company operating Fukushima's tsunami-devastated nuclear power plant said Friday it will run out of space to store massive amounts of contaminated water in three years, adding pressure on the government and the public to reach a consensus on what to do with it.

Three reactors at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant suffered meltdowns in a massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan.

Radioactive water has leaked from the damaged reactors and mixed with groundwater and rainwater at the plant. The water is treated but

remains slightly radioactive and is stored in large tanks.

The plant has accumulated more than 1 million tons of water in nearly 1,000 tanks.

Its operator, Tokyo Electric

Power Co., says it plans to build more tanks but can accommodate only up to 1.37 million tons, which it will reach in the summer of 2022.

What to do after that is a big question. □



This Sept. 4, 2017, aerial file photo shows Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant reactors, bottom from right, Unit 1, Unit 2 and Unit 3, in Okuma town, Fukushima prefecture, northeastern Japan.

Associated Press

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Toni Morrison was a 'literary mother' to countless writers

By HILLEL ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — When author Angela Flournoy was asked to dress as her favorite literary character for a magazine shoot four years ago, she knew how to look the part: a wide and "severe hat," a fur stole and the kind of stare that dares you to stare back.

For a day she could pretend to be Sula Peace, from Nobel laureate Toni Morrison's novel "Sula," an ode to female friendship and how it can endure the most shameless betrayals.

"The thing that has always drawn me to Sula is that she is extremely complicated," says Flournoy, whose novel "The Turner House" was a National Book Award finalist in 2015, "and the narrative doesn't make any excuses for her bad behavior, or ever make her less worthy." Toni Morrison died this week at age 88 and left behind countless writers for whom her characters were like close acquaintances and her stories like parables to guide them through their own lives. Edwidge Danticat, the prize-winning Haitian-American author, called her "a literary mother to generations of writers, especially black women writers like myself." To ask a writer about reading Morrison or how Morrison influenced their work is, in part, to ask why they became writers at all.



Visitors view a portrait of Nobel laureate Toni Morrison, painted by the artist Robert McCurdy, Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019, at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington.

Jamel Brinkley, a National Book Award finalist last fall for the story collection "A Lucky Man," was a teenager when he read "The Bluest Eye," Morrison's 1970 novel about a black girl wishing for blue eyes.

"I remember feeling overwhelmed by what the novel had to say about racism, and about notions of beauty and ugliness," he told The Associated Press in a recent email. "I felt like I was encountering something I hadn't seen in written work before, but at the same time so much of the book's sound and character felt familiar and affirmative to me, from life. It felt

like a book that demanded you rise to certain level and become its reader, and it took a while before I could become that person."

Julia Alvarez, whose novels include the best-selling "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents," praised Morrison for helping "many of us writers in the margins" find their way. George Saunders cited "Beloved," her surreal, Pulitzer Prize-winning novel about an escaped slave, for opening up his ideas of historical fiction and helping to inspire the dreamlike novel "Lincoln in the Bardo," winner of the Man Booker Prize. "There is something about

the scale of her work that inspires other writers to think in a more expansive way," he added, "she inspires with her incredible language and also the moral-ethical intensity of her work."

The layers of rhythms and allusions in Morrison's prose, from the Bible to black folklore, could make picking up a Morrison book the beginning of a lifelong education. Oprah Winfrey has told the story of complaining to the author that her books were difficult to get through. Morrison's response: "That, my dear, is called reading." Saeed Jones, a prize-winning poet whose memoir "How We

Fight for Our Lives" comes out this fall, remembered repeated efforts to read "The Bluest Eye" and the Morrison novel "Tar Baby." In 10th grade, he managed to finish "Sula," a book he had to discover on his own because his school didn't assign any black writers.

"I'd never seen a black woman like her in a literary novel," he told the AP, referring to the title character. "She was sexy, troubled and troubling. I hung on her every move. I've read the novel perhaps eight times now and its influence in my work is clear. I love characters who trouble the water even at risk of drowning in the process."

Morrison's books so moved some readers they became determined to meet her. When poet Nikki Giovanni finished "The Bluest Eye," more than 40 years ago, she was living on Manhattan's Upper West Side. She immediately headed to the midtown offices of Random House, where Morrison was an editor, and told the receptionist she wanted to see her. Morrison came downstairs, went out with her for coffee and remained her friend for the rest of their lives. As a writer, she calls Morrison a "light," one who inspired her peers to tell their stories and not worry what others said. As a person, she calls her a "bench," a source of rest and support. □

Associated Press

Digital dating proves complicated in 'Love at First Like'

By LINCEE RAY
Associated Press

"Love at First Like" (Atria Books), by Hannah Orenstein

Dating in the digital age can be tricky business, especially when you project an image on social media that is in no way a truthful depiction of your relationship status. In "Love at First Like," Eliza Roth accidentally leads her Instagram followers to believe that she is engaged and quickly learns that maintaining a picture perfect life is extremely complicated.

Sophie and her sister Eliza co-own a jewelry shop in



This photo provided by Atria Books shows the book cover of "Love at First Like" by Hannah Orenstein from Atria Books.

Associated Press

Brooklyn, New York. While Eliza pours all of her time into the artistic design of their pieces, Sophie manages the marketing and social media side of the business. After discovering her ex-boyfriend is newly engaged, Eliza comforts herself by trying on one of the shop's most extravagant rings on a very important finger. She snaps a photo, saves it to her Instagram account, and wallows the rest of the night in self-pity. The next morning, Eliza is shocked to learn that the photo is posted to her Instagram feed. The feeling of horror slowly morphs

into intrigue. It seems that her 100,000 followers have grown by several thousand more overnight. Eliza makes the executive decision to continue the ruse, especially when the shop begins to welcome more patrons than ever before, thanks to the "engagement" post. Sales are through the roof. She couldn't ask for better publicity. When the offers of wedding sponsorships and donated gifts start filling her inbox, Eliza can't help but to fall completely into the charade. She even posts a wedding date. The only way to move forward is to find a future husband.

Blake seems like the ideal candidate. But there's a problem: He has no idea Eliza is secretly pushing him toward a posh rooftop wedding. What's worse is that in the midst of the chaos, Eliza actually falls for someone she likes. Soon the lies begin to catch up with her and Eliza realizes that one post may cost her everything.

"Love at First Like" is fun romance with a digital twist. Hannah Orenstein proves that even though we present our lives through screens, it's important to live life unfiltered in the real world. □

High-octane cast can't save this messy 'Kitchen'

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
Associated Press

It happens in even the best kitchens: You bring together top-quality ingredients and a promising recipe, but somehow the end result comes out tasting wrong, just wrong. And that's what's happened, alas, with "The Kitchen," a New York mob story starring, for a change, women — the estimable trio of Melissa McCarthy,

Elisabeth Moss and Tiffany Haddish, along with an intriguing supporting cast including Annabella Sciorra in a key cameo. The film is the debut directing effort of Andrea Berloff, who also penned the screenplay (and was nominated for an Oscar for co-writing "Straight Outta Compton"). And the script, adapted from a graphic novel, features an enticing story: three mob wives join



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows, from left, Elisabeth Moss, Tiffany Haddish and Melissa McCarthy in a scene from "The Kitchen."

thing to make ends meet. It's Kathy (McCarthy) who becomes the de facto leader of their unlikely transformation. The most nuanced character of the bunch, Kathy is married to an ineffectual but decent man (an excellent Brian D'Arcy James) and at least has some love in her marriage.

The same cannot be said of Ruby (Haddish), who came to the neighborhood from Harlem, and is married to a nasty jerk with a downright racist mother (the reliable Martindale, doing what she can with a thin part). Then there's Claire (Moss), the most downtrodden of the bunch, a victim of serial abuse from her pathetic excuse of a husband.

Somehow, immediately after their hubbies leave town, these women manage to convince the neighborhood's shopowners with astonishing ease to switch allegiance and pay them protection money. Naturally this doesn't go over well with the men.

So far so good. And then things start getting crazy — crazy violent. These heretofore meek women start to warm to the idea — fast — that being violent is a crucial element of their new job descriptions. □

Associated Press

forces when their husbands are sent to jail, becoming mob bosses themselves to ensure their economic survival.

But once the plot is set in motion, things begin to go haywire. Despite compelling work from the leads and excellent supporting work from character actors like Margo Martindale and Bill Camp, it all starts to feel choppy and forced and then just tonally off — way off. Curious music choices merely add to the chaotic feel. By the end, you're just remarking to yourself, "Come on, now. Really?!" The title is a double entendre, referring to women's

traditional place, of course, but also to Hell's Kitchen, the Manhattan neighborhood which now has upscale high-rises filled with Wall Street bankers, but in the late '70s was home to poor or working-class families and Irish American gangs like the one portrayed here.

We begin with the botched holdup of a liquor store, which results in the three husbands getting sent to prison, leaving their loyal wives in the lurch.

"We'll take care of you," the gang's leader promises the wives, but it becomes clear he won't, and the women need to do some-

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Marc Cohn, Blind Boys of Alabama blend pop, gospel

By **PABLO GORONDI**
Associated Press

Marc Cohn and Blind Boys of Alabama, "Work to Do" (BMG)

Marc Cohn and the Blind Boys of Alabama's new album began as an EP of studio recordings before being wisely extended with their performance for the PBS concert series "The Kate."

The album kicks off with the gospel standard "Walk in Jerusalem" and its enthusiasm and joyous beat, to paraphrase a line from Cohn's biggest hit, may make you a Christian, at least while you listen. The other songs meant for the EP, the Cohn-penned title track and "Talk Back Mic,"



This photo provided by BMG shows Marc Cohn and Blind Boys of Alabama, "Work To Do" (BMG).

Associated Press

co-written with producer John Leventhal, are also excellent and make one yearn for a full studio effort. Still, the live renditions have their own charms and Cohn, who is a fan of "Loves Me Like A Rock" and other

Paul Simon-Dixie Hummingbirds collaborations, blends in similarly well with the Blind Boys' seasoned ensemble led by Jimmy Carter along with Eric "Ricky" McKinnie, Joey Williams, Ben Moore and Paul Beasley. □

Woodstock photos are displayed for 1st time, 50 years later

By MICHAEL HILL
Associated Press

As Jerry Garcia jammed and Janis Joplin wailed, Mark Goff captured images at Woodstock that no one ever saw.

The 22-year-old photographer for an underground paper took hundreds of pictures of the performers and the crowd that weekend. Some were published, and the negatives from that weekend were filed away at his Milwaukee home and barely mentioned as Goff raised two daughters, changed careers and, last November, died of cancer. Dozens of Goff's Woodstock shots are being displayed 50 years later thanks to efforts by artist Nick Clemente, who wants to shine a light on the little-known photographer. For the daughters, the photos are a window into what their father saw during that chaotic summer weekend in 1969. "Seeing these photos is a really interesting way to see who he was outside of being our father," said 34-year-old Alli Goff. "Because that's the only way we really know him."

Mark Goff was in a group of credentialed photographers for the festival that included the biggest names in rock photography and a high school newspaper journalist. The long-haired Navy veteran shot for the



This August, 1969 photo shows Richie Havens as he performs during Woodstock in Bethel, N.Y.

Milwaukee underground newspaper Kaleidoscope. Over the weekend of Aug. 15-18, he trained his lens on Arlo Guthrie, the Band and Richie Havens. And he sloshed around the muddy farm land to photograph the beatific, scruffy crowd. It was part of his work documenting the counter-cultural movement, heavy on rockers like Lou Reed and Bruce Springsteen, mostly in his hometown of Milwaukee. One famous photo, still all over the internet, shows comedian George Carlin being escorted by police

during his 1972 arrest over offensive language.

"My whole life was associated with my dad carrying a camera," said Leah DeMarco, 47. She remembers her father working as a freelance photographer for local newspapers and monitoring police frequencies in his car. If he heard a call, he'd hide her under a blanket to get through the police line.

Goff stored 225 Woodstock images in a cabinet, along with more from Milwaukee and his stint in the Navy. His ex-wife Barbara Rem-

inga said maybe 60 were printed at the time, including a Janis Joplin picture displayed in their foyer. A smaller number were published. Most of the film remained in the cabinet as he moved on to other jobs that included being an aide to a liberal congressman, an activist and a political consultant.

It seems like his memories of Woodstock were mostly packed away too. He would tell his daughters stories about, say, the George Carlin photo. But he spoke little of Woodstock.

"He was like, 'Yeah, it kind of became this phenomenon later. But at the time, it was kind of like one more thing. Everything was groundbreaking,'" Alli Goff recalled. "And he would kind of complain, 'It was raining a lot.'"

Still, some of his Woodstock images are in circulation. He posted 20 of his festival shots on Facebook as Woodstock's 40th anniversary loomed in 2009. And he contributed his press pass and a handful of pictures to the Newseum in Washington, D.C. for an exhibit that year. At the time, he told a local news outlet that he previously had "not thought about Woodstock for more than five minutes" in decades.

Mark Goff continued to work and ride his beloved Harley motorcycle as he battled pancreatic cancer, dying Nov. 30 at age 71. He died weeks after Clemente began searching for him.

Clemente is a graphic designer and wanted to use an unattributed image of Swami Satchidananda on the Woodstock stage for a poster. It took some sleuthing to find it was shot by Goff. By the time Clemente was finally able to search the photographer's name online, he turned up the recently published obituary. □

Rhiannon Giddens, Frank Johnson to get Americana award

By KRISTIN M. HALL
Associated Press
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)

— Grammy-winning folk singer and musician Rhiannon Giddens and the late Frank Johnson, the leader of a 19th century black brass band, will be the first recipients of the inaugural Legacy of Americana Award.

The Americana Music Association announced the new award on Wednesday in partnership with the National Museum of African American Music. The award will be presented during the Americana

Honors & Awards show in Nashville, Tennessee, on September 11.

Giddens, from North Carolina, won a Grammy Award in 2011 for best traditional folk album with the string band the Carolina Chocolate Drops. She has spent her career exploring the history of African roots music.

She was named a fellow in 2017 by the Chicago-based MacArthur Foundation and received one of its "genius" grants to pursue her creative work. Giddens is also a nominee at the Americana Awards for

artist of the year and duo/group of the year for her band Our Native Daughters.

Johnson's band was popular during the 1800s in North Carolina, but his contributions have largely been forgotten.

The Americana Music Association said in a statement that the new award has been created to honor those individuals who have "either made a lasting impression through music or inspired art to recognize the legacy of Americana music traditions."

H. Beecher Hicks III, CEO



In this Tuesday, July 3, 2018, file photo, Rhiannon Giddens performs during rehearsal for the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular in Boston.

Associated Press

and president of the National Museum of African American Music, which is set to open in Nashville in 2020, said they hope "to shine a light on forgotten artists like Frank Johnson,

whose stories may have been lost to history, and on innovators like Rhiannon Giddens, who is pushing Americana and American music forward by exploring the past." □



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